

DAREDEVIL

10¢



DAREDEVIL

AUTHORIZED
A. C. M. P.



JUNE
no. 75

FEATURING *The Little Wise Guys*

2 FEATURE-LENGTH
WISE GUYS
ILLUSTORIES

"WEAZY DOES IT"
and "THE ANGELS"

LEV GLEASON, PUB., CHARLES BIRO AND BOB WOOD, EDITORS

A
FULL-SIZE
52 page
MAG!

THEY'RE LAUGHING
AND MAKING FUN
OF ME! LET
ME GO!

CALM
DOWN, GRUFFIE!
THIS IS A PLAY!
THEY'RE LAUGHING
AT THE PART-
NOT YOU!

CHARLES
BIRO

HA HA HE HE
HA HA HE HE
HO HO HO HO

HO HO
HA HA
HE HE

LEV GLEASON
PUBLICATIONS



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IN GLORIOUS COLORS:

- BLACK
- AQUA
- ROSE
- AMERICAN BEAUTY

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POLKA DOTS			

Send C.O.D. I'll pay postman.

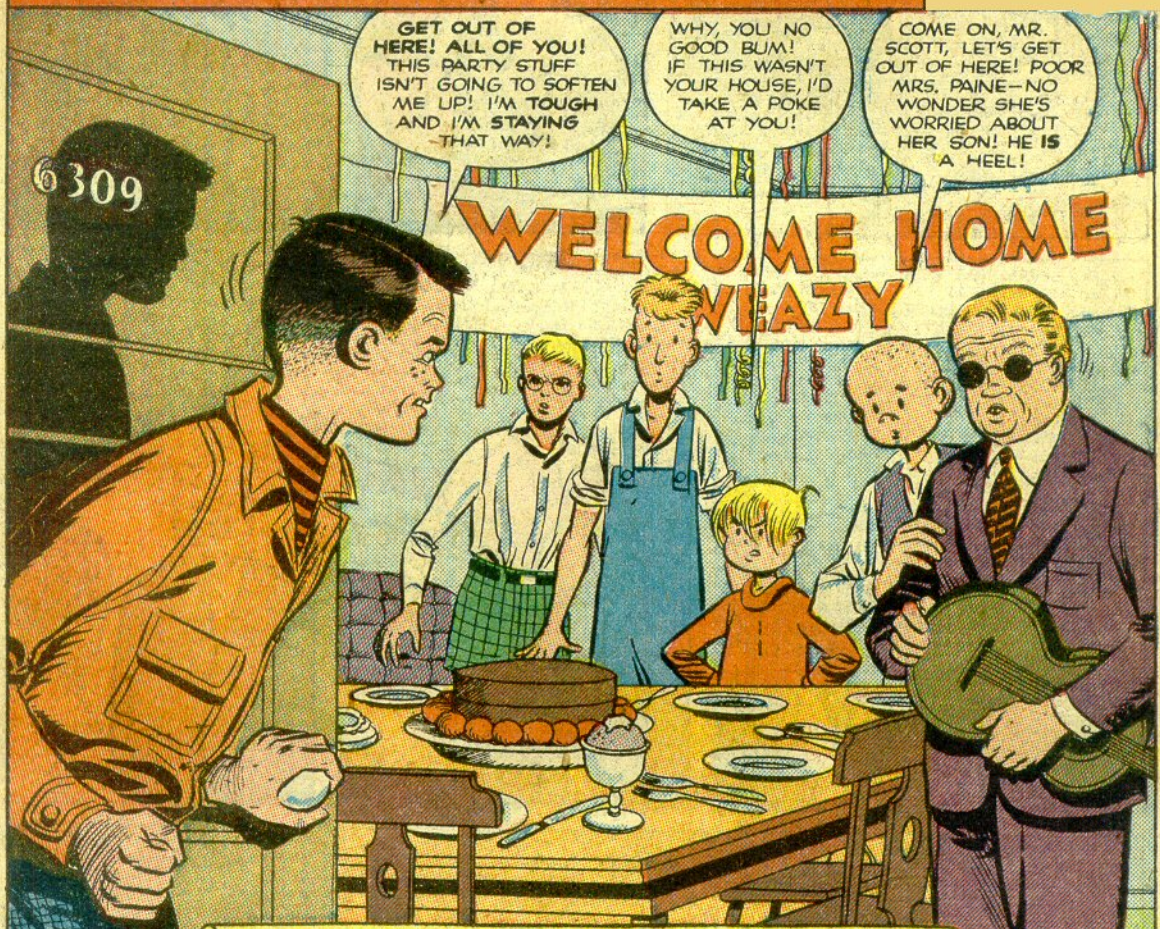
I enclose \$_____ you pay postage.

NAME _____
ADDRESS _____
CITY _____ ZONE _____ STATE _____

SEND NO MONEY — 10 DAY FREE TRIAL

the LITTLE WISE GUYS

in "WEAZY DOES IT"



GET OUT OF HERE! ALL OF YOU! THIS PARTY STUFF ISN'T GOING TO SOFTEN ME UP! I'M TOUGH AND I'M STAYING - THAT WAY!

WHY, YOU NO GOOD BUM! IF THIS WASN'T YOUR HOUSE, I'D TAKE A POKE AT YOU!

COME ON, MR. SCOTT, LET'S GET OUT OF HERE! POOR MRS. PAINE—NO WONDER SHE'S WORRIED ABOUT HER SON! HE IS A HEEL!

WELCOME HOME WEAZY

THE EXPRESSION, "THE BEST THINGS IN LIFE ARE FREE" CAN NEVER BE MORE TRUTHFULLY APPLIED THAN TO MUSIC! IT IS ONE OF THE FEW FIELDS IN WHICH A PERSON CAN GAIN LIMITLESS PLEASURE EVEN THOUGH HE'S NOT A PROFESSIONAL! WE CANNOT FREELY SAY THIS ABOUT ARCHITECTURE OR CHEMISTRY OR ENGINEERING OR THE LIKE! IT WOULD BE UNTHINKABLE FOR ANYONE TO SACRIFICE YEARS OF POSTGRADUATE STUDY AND INTERNSHIP IN MEDICINE WITHOUT DESIRE TO PRACTICE PROFESSIONALLY IN THAT FIELD! BUT IN MUSIC IT IS NOT UNCOMMON TO SEE MANY WHO HAVE DEVOTED THEIR LIVES TO IT FOR THE SHEER PLEASURE DERIVED! MANY OF THE GREAT MASTERS OF THE PAST, LONG BEFORE MUSIC PUBLISHERS, WERE LURED ONLY BY THE FUN OF IT! IT IS THE NONPROFESSIONAL WHO HAS CONTRIBUTED THE MOST TO MAKE THIS ART ONE OF THE MOST BELOVED AND ITS LANGUAGE MOST UNIVERSALLY SPOKEN AND UNDERSTOOD BY ALL THE WORLD!

STORY BY

CHARLES BIRO

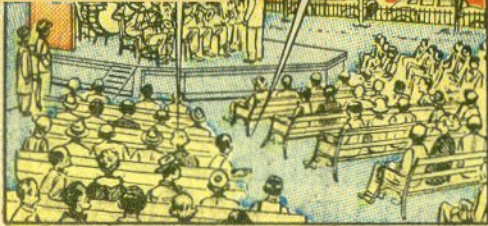
ILLUSTRATED BY

BRIAN MAURER

Charles Biro

S
NG
E
STORM
RIGHT
E'D
/!

IT MAY
BLOW OVER,
LUKE! LET'S WAIT
AND SEE! I'D
HATE TO MISS
THIS CONCERT
AGAIN!



HURRY, MARY!
I KNEW WE
SHOULDN'T HAVE
STAYED! RUN
FOR IT!



THIS WAS
GOING TO
BE THE
BEST
CONCERT
YET!

I LIKE DEBUSSY SO
MUCH! THEY WERE
GOING TO PLAY
HIS LA MER!

AND
PROKOFIEFF'S
CLASSICAL
SYMPHONY,
TOO!



NEARLY EVERY TIME WE
PLAN A CONCERT IT
RAINS! IT'S BAD ENOUGH
THAT WE CAN ONLY
HAVE THEM IN WARM
WEATHER, BUT WITH ALL
THIS RAIN, IT HARDLY
SEEMS WORTHWHILE TO
CONTINUE OUR
SERIES!

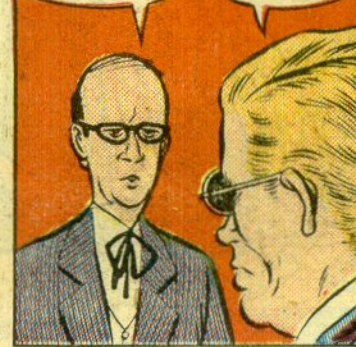
WHAT WE NEED
IS AN INDOOR
CONCERT HALL!
THEN WE COULD
HAVE YEAR-
ROUND CONCERTS
INSTEAD OF BE-
ING LIMITED TO
A SHORT SUMMER
PROGRAM!

WE ALL KNOW AN
INDOOR HALL WOULD
SOLVE OUR PROBLEMS,
MR. SCOTT, BUT
WHERE CAN WE FIND
SUCH A PLACE!
THERE IS NO PUBLIC
BUILDING LARGE
ENOUGH TO ACCOM-
MODATE A CONCERT
AUDIENCE!

THERE'S NICKY'S
POOLROOM! I
KNOW IT SOUNDS
LIKE AN ODD PLACE
TO GIVE CONCERTS
BUT FROM THE
STANDPOINT OF
SIZE AND
ACOUSTICS IT
WOULD BE PERFECT!

GEORGE DAUFFIN AND THE FIRST
VIOLINIST, HOWARD BERTIN,
HAVE GONE DOWN TO SEE IF MR.
NICKOLAUS WILL RENT IT TO
US FOR WEEKLY
CONCERTS! THEY
SHOULD BE BACK
IN TIME TO
REPORT THE
RESULT!

CONCERTS
IN A POOL-
HALL! I
NEVER
HEARD OF
SUCH A
THING!



IT'S AN UNUSUAL IDEA!
STILL, IT WOULD MAKE
A FINE HALL AND THAT
WOULD COMPENSATE
FOR SOME OF THE
DRAWBACKS!

WE'LL SOON KNOW
WHETHER IT'S
POSSIBLE OR NOT!
I HEAR THEM
COMING NOW!

GEORGE!
WHAT
HAPPENED!

GOOD HEAVENS,
BERKIN! WERE
YOU IN A HOLDUP?
WHO DID THIS
TO YOU?

IT HAPPENED AT THE POOLROOM!
MR. NICKOLAUS LAUGHED IN OUR
FACES WHEN WE TOLD HIM WHAT
WE WANTED! THEN HE TOLD SOME
OF THE ROUGH-NECKS WHO WERE
HANGING AROUND
THE PLACE WHY
WE WERE
THERE!

THE NEXT
THING WE KNEW
THEY HAD
GANGLIED UP
ON US!





SOMEONE SAID, 'LET'S SHOW THEM WHAT WE DO TO HIGH-HAT GUYS WHO THINK THEY CAN CHANGE THIS PLACE TO A LA-DE-DA OPERA HOUSE!' AND THEN THEY BEGAN SHOWING AND PUNCHING US! WE HAD TO FIGHT OUR WAY TO THE DOOR, AND IF A POLICEMAN HADN'T BEEN PASSING BY, THEY'D PROBABLY HAVE KILLED US!

SHOCKING!



I GUESS THAT SETTLES THAT IDEA OF YOURS, MR. SCOTT!

I'M TERRIBLY SORRY, HOWARD! I HAD NO IDEA THEY'D REACT SO VIOLENTLY! MUSIC IS FOR ALL PEOPLE! IF THEY'D ONLY GIVEN US A CHANCE THEY MIGHT HAVE FOUND THAT THEY LIKED CONCERTS!



SCOTT IS BLIND SO HE DOESN'T KNOW WHAT A TOUGH ROWDY CREW THEY ARE! HE'S A FOOL TO BELIEVE THE NONSENSE THAT 'MUSIC HATH CHARMS TO SOOTHE THE SAVAGE BEAST!' I CAN TELL YOU IT WOULDN'T WORK WITH THEM! THEY HATE MUSIC!



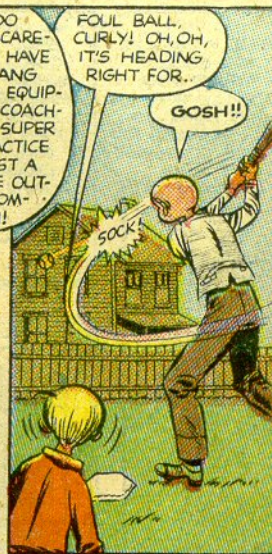
C'MON, JOCK! KEEP IT UP AND YOU'LL PITCH A NO-HIT GAME ON SATURDAY WHEN WE PLAY THE EAGLES!

YOU BET, JOCK! THAT INSIDE CURVE OF YOURS WILL MOW 'EM DOWN!



YOU'RE PITCHING BETTER THAN YOU EVER HAVE, JOCK! THE RED EAGLES WILL HAVE RED FACES WHEN YOU GET THROUGH WITH THEM!

DON'T BE TOO OPTIMISTIC, SCARECROW! THEY HAVE A WHIZ-BANG TEAM, GOOD EQUIPMENT, GOOD COACHING AND A SUPER FIELD TO PRACTICE ON! WE'RE JUST A RAGGLE-TAGGLE OUTFIT BY COMPARISON!



FOUL BALL, CURLY! OH, OH, IT'S HEADING RIGHT FOR..

GOSH!!

SOCK!



GOLLY-WHAT'LL WE DO? RUN?

IT COULDN'T BE HELPED, CURLY! IT WAS BOUND TO HAPPEN SOONER OR LATER! LET'S GO OVER AND FACE IT!

SURE, WHAT'CHA SCARED OF? I'LL DO THE TALKING! MOST PEOPLE GET MAD WHEN YOU DON'T FACE UP TO THINGS!



OKAY, PEE WEE, GO TO IT!

OMIGOSH! NOBODY EVER CRIED BEFORE WHEN WE BROKE A WINDOW! JEEPERS! THIS IS GOING TO BE TOUGH! DON'T WORRY FELLERS, I'LL STRAIGHTEN IT ALL OUT! WAIT HERE FOR ME!

SHE'S ALL YOURS!

SOB! SOB!



PLEASE DON'T CRY, MA'AM! WE'LL PAY FOR THE WINDOW WE BROKE! I'M AWFULLY SORRY IT HAPPENED...

SOB! SOB! I... I WASN'T CRYING ABOUT THAT! I DON'T MIND ABOUT THE WINDOW! I KNOW IT WAS AN ACCIDENT!



HUH? THEN WHY ARE YOU CRYING?

I'VE BEEN WATCHING YOU PLAY AND IT MADE ME WISH THAT MY SON, WEAZY, WOULD BE LIKE YOU! YOU WISE GUYS HAVE SUCH A GOOD REPUTATION AROUND TOWN! WHY CAN'T MY BOY LEAD A GOOD LIFE AND ENJOY SPORTS AND BE LIKED BY EVERYONE?



SOME GUYS JUST AREN'T INTERESTED IN SPORTS, BUT THAT DOESN'T MEAN THEY AREN'T GOOD IN OTHER THINGS! I'M SURE YOUR SON'S A NICE PERSON EVEN IF HE DOESN'T PLAY BASEBALL!

YOU DON'T UNDERSTAND! AS LONG AS I CAN REMEMBER PEOPLE HAVE COME TO ME AND SAID, "MRS. PAINE, YOUR BOY HAS BEEN TORTURING OUR CAT!"—"MRS. PAINE, WEAZY HAS BEEN TEACHING OUR BOY TO GAMBLE!"



HE'S LIED, CHEATED, GAMBLER—KEEPS BAD COMPANY! HE'S EVEN STOLEN MONEY! I'M AT MY WIT'S END! I WISH SOMEONE COULD HELP HIM! I WANT TO BE PROUD OF HIM, BUT I CAN'T BE! OH, WHAT SHALL I DO?



GEE, MRS. PAINE, WE...I MEAN JOCK, CURLY, SCARECROW AND MYSELF...WE'D BE GLAD TO DO ANYTHING WE CAN TO HELP! MAYBE WE COULD GET HIM INTERESTED IN OTHER THINGS!

DO YOU REALLY THINK HE YOU COULD? WOULD YOU REALLY TRY? HE'S GONE SO FAR—MAY BE TOO LATE TO CHANGE HIM!



NO ONE IS ALTOGETHER BAD! NOW YOU TAKE CURLY FOR INSTANCE! WHEN WE FIRST MET HIM, HE WAS THE MEANEST, NO-GOOD LOUSE ALIVE! THEN SOMETHING HAPPENED ONE DAY AND HE CHANGED COMPLETELY! NOW HE'S JUST ABOUT THE GRANDEST GUY ALIVE!

WEAZY IS COMING BACK FROM THE TRAYLOR SCHOOL FOR BOYS TOMORROW! I DO WISH I COULD HAVE A PARTY FOR HIM SO YOU COULD MEET HIM, BUT I'LL BE AT WORK! I HATE TO LET HIM COME HOME TO AN EMPTY HOUSE!



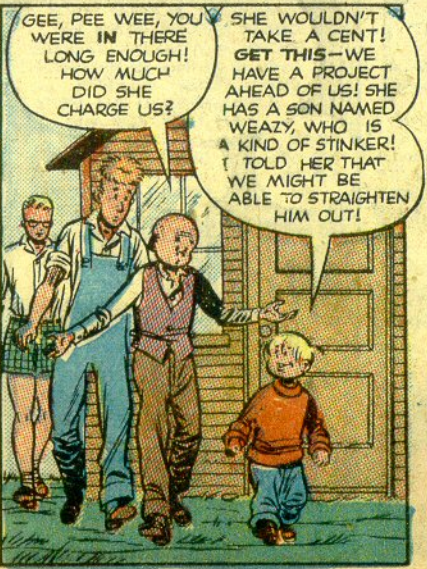
I'VE GOT AN IDEA! I ALWAYS HEARD YOU WISE GUYS WERE FINE BOYS! NOW I KNOW IT!

SUPPOSE WE COULD WHIP UP A SURPRISE PARTY FOR HIM! YOU WON'T HAVE TO DO A THING! JUST GIVE US THE KEY AND WE'LL DO THE REST!



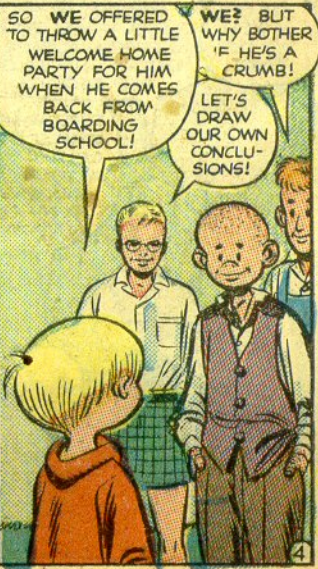
HOLY SMOKE! I NEARLY FORGOT WHAT I CAME TO SEE YOU FOR...NOW ABOUT THAT BROKEN WINDOW...WE WANT TO PAY FOR IT!

NONSENSE! I WON'T HEAR OF IT! WHAT YOU'RE DOING FOR ME IS WORTH A THOUSAND WINDOWS!



GEE, PEE WEE, YOU WERE IN THERE LONG ENOUGH! HOW MUCH DID SHE CHARGE US?

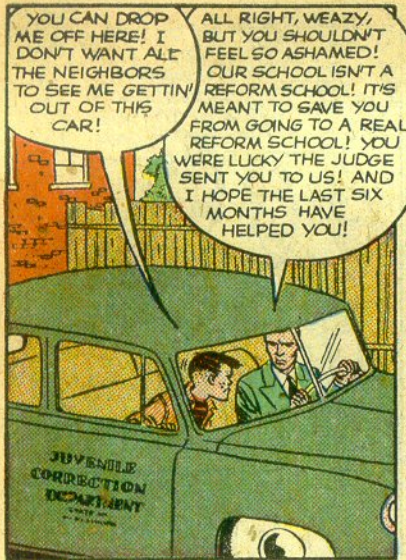
SHE WOULDN'T TAKE A CENT! GET THIS—WE HAVE A PROJECT AHEAD OF US! SHE HAS A SON NAMED WEAZY, WHO IS A KIND OF STINKER! I TOLD HER THAT WE MIGHT BE ABLE TO STRAIGHTEN HIM OUT!



SO WE OFFERED TO THROW A LITTLE WELCOME HOME PARTY FOR HIM WHEN HE COMES BACK FROM BOARDING SCHOOL!

WE? BUT WHY BOTHER 'IF HE'S A CRUMB!

LET'S DRAW OUR OWN CONCLUSIONS!



YOU CAN DROP ME OFF HERE! I DON'T WANT ALL THE NEIGHBORS TO SEE ME GETTING OUT OF THIS CAR!

ALL RIGHT, WEAZY, BUT YOU SHOULDN'T FEEL SO ASHAMED! OUR SCHOOL ISN'T A REFORM SCHOOL! IT'S MEANT TO SAVE YOU FROM GOING TO A REAL REFORM SCHOOL! YOU WERE LUCKY THE JUDGE SENT YOU TO US! AND I HOPE THE LAST SIX MONTHS HAVE HELPED YOU!



NOW THAT YOU'RE BACK HOME, STEER CLEAR OF THAT BAD CROWD YOU USED TO KNOW! THEY'LL ONLY GET YOU IN BAD AGAIN! TRY TO DO SOME GOOD IN THE COMMUNITY INSTEAD OF ALWAYS GETTING INTO TROUBLE! AND WEAZY, BE NICER TO YOUR MOTHER! SHE'S THE BEST FRIEND YOU'VE GOT!

YEAH, YEAH!



GOOD-BY, WEAZY, AND GOOD LUCK! EVEN THOUGH YOU ACT TOUGH, I HAVE A HUNCH YOU'RE GLAD TO BE BACK HOME AGAIN!

SURE, AND YOU WANT TO KNOW WHY? BECAUSE I DON'T HAVE TO LISTEN TO YOUR LOOSE JAW ANY MORE!



HEY! JIBBER! LOOK WHO'S COMIN'— IT'S WEAZY PAINE! BOY! YOU'D BETTER SCRAM! HE KNOWS IT WAS YOU WHO SQUEALED ON HIM!



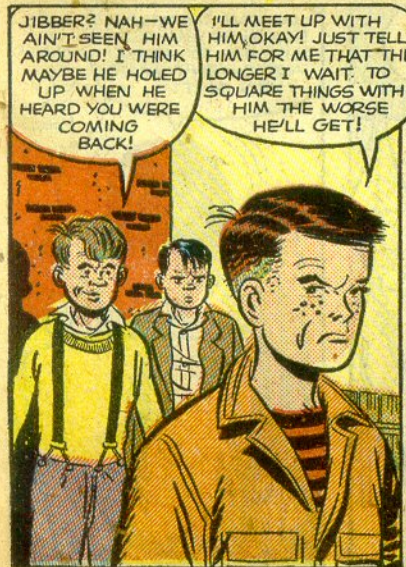
HE TOLD THE JUDGE HE'D GET EVEN WITH THE GUY WHO TIPPED OFF THE COPS IF IT'S THE LAST THING HE DID!

SAVE YOUR BREATH, FROSTY! JIBBER JUST MADE A JET TAKE OFF OVER THE FENCE!



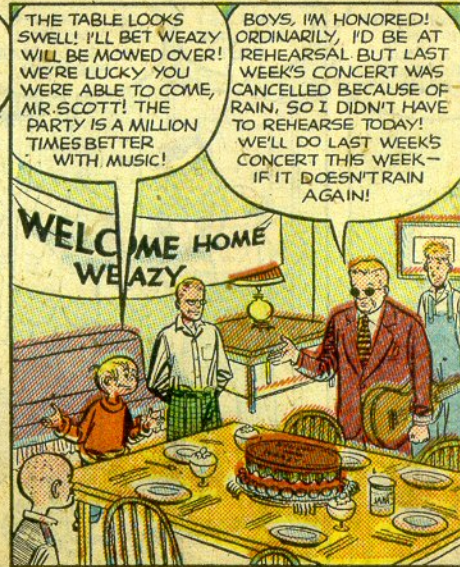
HIYA, WEAZY, GLAD TO SEE YOU BACK! HOW WAS REFORM SCHOOL? I BETCHA LEARNED A LOT OF NEW ANGLES!

SKIP IT! WHERE'S THAT RAT JIBBER? I HAVE SOME UNFINISHED BUSINESS!



JIBBER? NAH— WE AIN'T SEEN HIM AROUND! I THINK MAYBE HE HOLED UP WHEN HE HEARD YOU WERE COMING BACK!

I'LL MEET UP WITH HIM, OKAY! JUST TELL HIM FOR ME THAT THE LONGER I WAIT, TO SQUARE THINGS WITH HIM THE WORSE HE'LL GET!

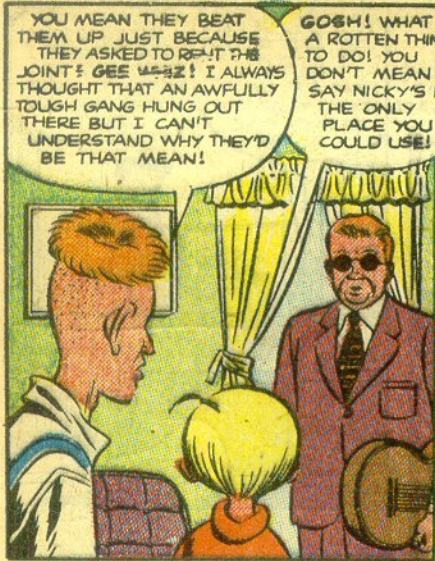


THE TABLE LOOKS SWELL! I'LL BET WEAZY WILL BE MOWED OVER! WE'RE LUCKY YOU WERE ABLE TO COME, MR. SCOTT! THE PARTY IS A MILLION TIMES BETTER WITH MUSIC!

BOYS, I'M HONORED! ORDINARILY, I'D BE AT REHEARSAL BUT LAST WEEK'S CONCERT WAS CANCELLED BECAUSE OF RAIN, SO I DIDN'T HAVE TO REHEARSE TODAY! WE'LL DO LAST WEEK'S CONCERT THIS WEEK— IF IT DOESN'T RAIN AGAIN!



IF ONLY WE COULD FIND AN INDOOR CONCERT HALL! WE HAVEN'T THE FUNDS TO PAY MUCH RENT AND THE RIGHT TYPE PLACE IS HARD TO FIND! I HOPED WE MIGHT RENT NICKY'S POOLROOM BUT HE REFUSED AND THE TWO MUSICIANS THAT INQUIRED ABOUT IT WERE BEATEN UP!

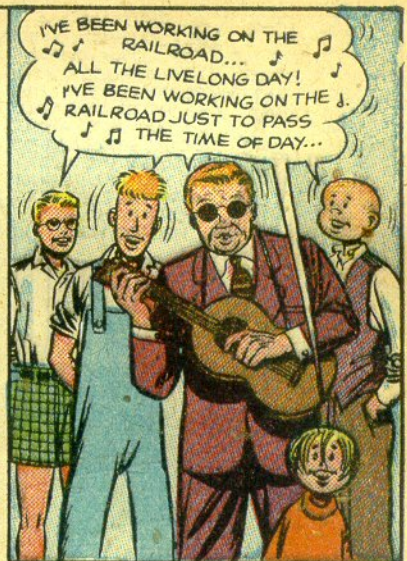


YOU MEAN THEY BEAT THEM UP JUST BECAUSE THEY ASKED TO RE-IT THE JOINT? GEE WEE! I ALWAYS THOUGHT THAT AN AWFULLY TOUGH GANG HUNG OUT THERE BUT I CAN'T UNDERSTAND WHY THEY'D BE THAT MEAN!

GOSH! WHAT A ROTTEN THING TO DO! YOU DON'T MEAN TO SAY NICKY'S IS THE ONLY PLACE YOU COULD USE!



IT'S THE ONLY PLACE BIG ENOUGH TO HOLD A LARGE AUDIENCE! IT WOULD BE A FINE PLACE FOR A COMMUNITY CENTER! WELL, NO USE TALKING ABOUT IT! LET'S THINK OF MORE CHEERFUL THINGS! HOW ABOUT SOME MUSIC!



I'VE BEEN WORKING ON THE RAILROAD... ALL THE LIVELONG DAY! I'VE BEEN WORKING ON THE RAILROAD JUST TO PASS THE TIME OF DAY...



CAN'T YOU HEAR THAT WHISTLE BLOWING...

WHAT IN TH' DAYLIGHTS IS GOIN' ON? WHAT'S MOM DOIN' WITH THE RADIO TURNED ON SO HIGH?



WELCOME HOME, WEAZY!

GLAD YOU'RE BACK!

IT'S YOUR PARTY, WEAZY, SO COME ON AND JOIN THE FUN!



WHO ARE YOU? AND WHO SAID I WANTED YOU JERKS TO GIVE ME A PARTY? HOW'D YOU GET IN HERE IN THE FIRST PLACE?

A NICE WAY TO THANK US FOR ALL THE TROUBLE WE WENT TO! YOUR MOTHER THOUGHT YOU'D LIKE A WELCOME HOME PARTY INSTEAD OF COMING HOME TO AN EMPTY HOUSE! SHE'S STILL AT WORK!



NOW WASN'T THAT NICE OF YOU! I SUPPOSE I'M SUPPOSED TO BE GRATEFUL! WELL, I'M NOT! I THINK IT STINKS! GET OUT!

YOU LOW DOWN HEEL! IF THIS WASN'T YOUR HOUSE I'D KNOCK YOUR EARS OFF!



DON'T LET THAT STOP YOU!

HOLD ON, THIS ISN'T WORTH FIGHTING ABOUT, PEE WEE!



GO ON! THE WHOLE BUNCH OF YOU! GET OUT! IT'S MY HOUSE AND I DON'T WANT YOU IN IT!

SURE, IF THAT'S THE WAY YOU FEEL!



YEAH! THAT'S HOW I FEEL!

WEAZY

COME ON, MR. SCOTT! LET'S GO! WE DON'T LIKE A RAT FOR COMPANY!



GEE! IF I'D EVER KNOWN WHAT I WAS GETTING US INTO WHEN I SAID WE'D TRY TO HELP WEAZY-POOR MRS. PAINE! I SURE HATE TO LET HER DOWN BUT IT WOULD TAKE AN ANGEL TO STAND THAT GUY!

MY GUITAR! I LEFT IT BACK IN THERE!



I'LL GET IT FOR YOU, MR. SCOTT!

THANK YOU, JOCK, BUT I'D RATHER GET IT MYSELF! JUST WAIT HERE FOR ME! I'LL ONLY BE A MOMENT!



WHAT ARE YOU DOING BACK HERE? I THOUGHT I TOLD YOU TO GET OUT!

I FORGOT MY GUITAR! I HAD TO COME BACK FOR IT!



WELL THEN, QUIT STALLING! TAKE IT! IT'S RIGHT IN FRONT OF YOUR NOSE! ARE YOU BUND?

AS A MATTER OF FACT, I AM! SINCE YOU CAN SEE IT WOULD YOU MIND HANDING IT TO ME?



GEE... I'M SORRY, I DIDN'T KNOW! HERE IT IS! WHAT I SAID WAS JUST A WISCRACK! I'D NEVER HAVE SAID IT IF...

THAT'S ALL RIGHT, WEAZY! IN A SENSE IT'S A COMPLIMENT THAT YOU DIDN'T NOTICE IT! I GET A KICK OUT OF IT WHEN PEOPLE DON'T REALIZE I'M BLIND!



SA-A-Y! THIS GUITAR OF YOURS IS A BEAT! I'LL BET IT'S HARD TO PLAY, HUH? EVEN SO IT MUST BE A NICE FEELING TO BE ABLE TO PLAY ANY TUNE YOU WANT! I WISHED I COULD, BUT THAT'S A JOKE, ISN'T IT? ME WANTING TO PLAY A GUITAR!

IT'S NO JOKE! I'LL LET YOU IN ON A SECRET! IT'S NOT NEARLY AS HARD AS PEOPLE THINK! WATCH AND I'LL SHOW YOU!



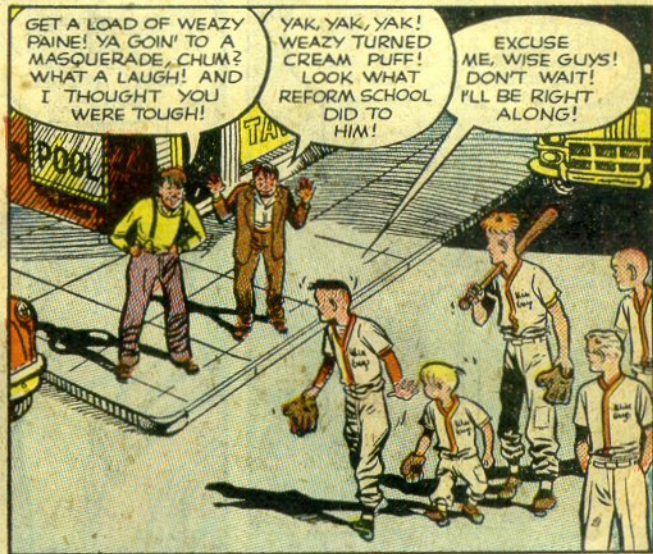
SEE? JUST BY KNOWING THESE FEW CHORDS YOU CAN PLAY DOZENS OF MELODIES! HERE, YOU TRY IT!

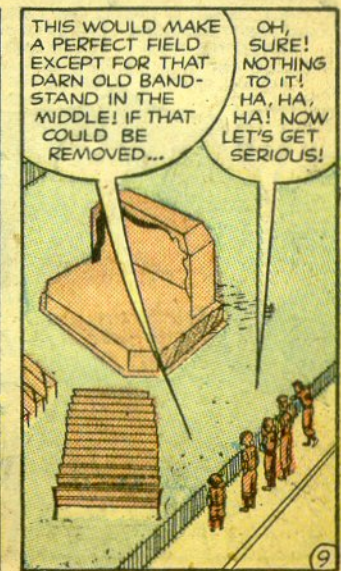
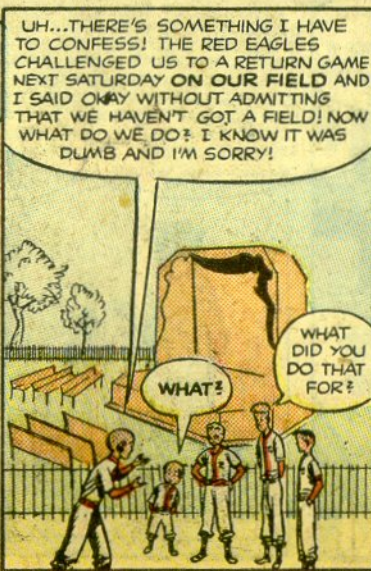
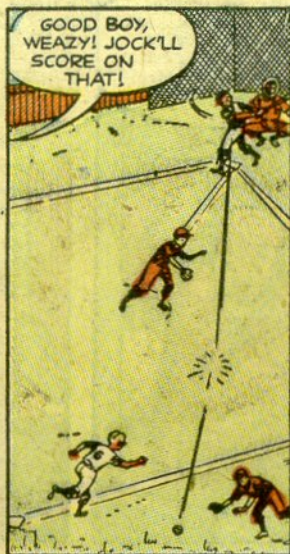
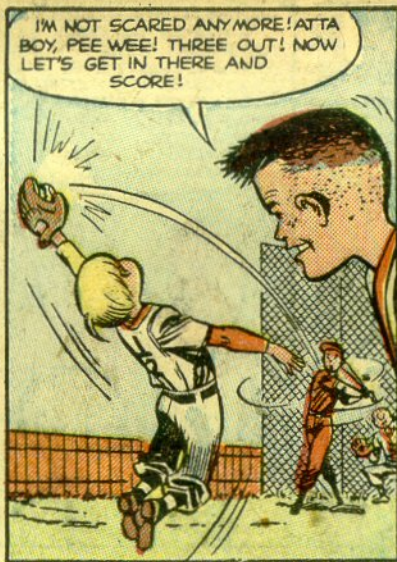
ME? YOU'RE KIDDING! IT LOOKS EASY THE WAY YOU DO IT, BUT I'M CLUMSY!

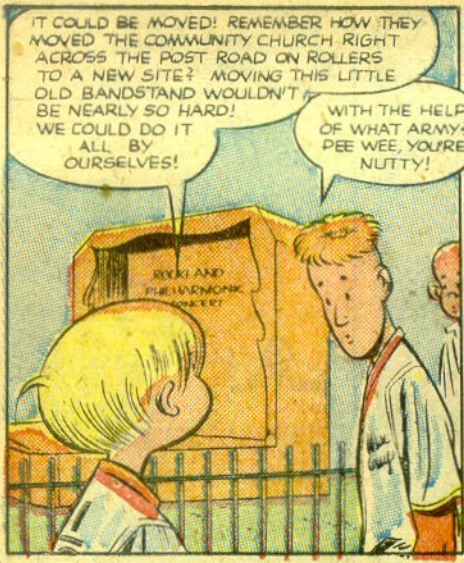


WE'LL FIND OUT WHAT'S KEEPING MR. SCOTT! IT WOULDN'T TAKE HIM TWENTY MINUTES TO GET HIS GUITAR! WEAZY HAS PULLED SOME MEAN TRICK ON HIM, I'LL BETCHA!

IF HE'S DONE ANYTHING TO MR. SCOTT I'LL MAKE HIM WISH HE'D NEVER BEEN BORN!

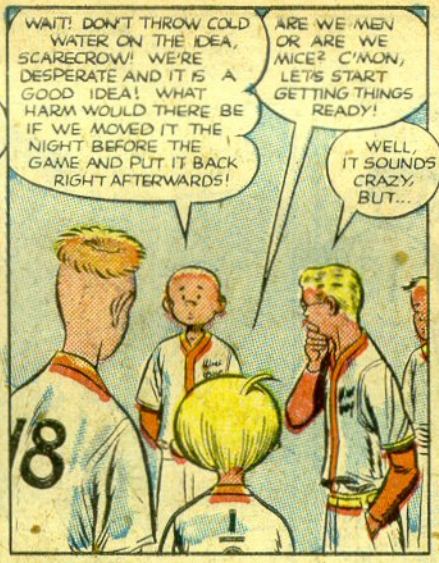






IT COULD BE MOVED! REMEMBER HOW THEY MOVED THE COMMUNITY CHURCH RIGHT ACROSS THE POST ROAD ON ROLLERS TO A NEW SITE? MOVING THIS LITTLE OLD BANDSTAND WOULDN'T BE NEARLY SO HARD! WE COULD DO IT ALL BY OURSELVES!

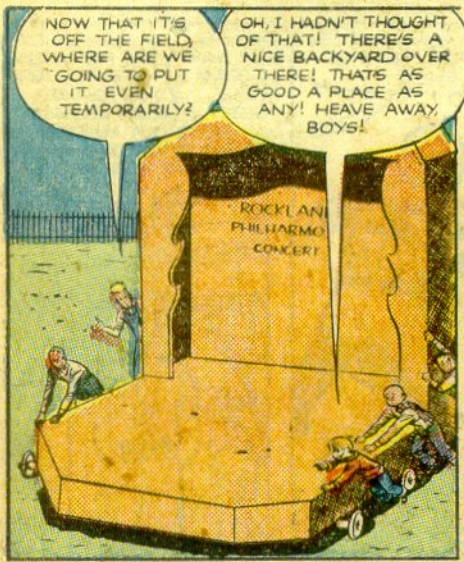
WITH THE HELP OF WHAT ARMY? PEE WEE, YOU'RE NUTTY!



WAIT! DON'T THROW COLD WATER ON THE IDEA, SCARECROW! WE'RE DESPERATE AND IT IS A GOOD IDEA! WHAT HARM WOULD THERE BE IF WE MOVED IT THE NIGHT BEFORE THE GAME AND PUT IT BACK RIGHT AFTERWARDS!

ARE WE MEN OR ARE WE MICE? C'MON, LET'S START GETTING THINGS READY!

WELL, IT SOUNDS CRAZY; BUT...



NOW THAT IT'S OFF THE FIELD, WHERE ARE WE GOING TO PUT IT EVEN TEMPORARILY?

OH, I HADN'T THOUGHT OF THAT! THERE'S A NICE BACKYARD OVER THERE! THAT'S AS GOOD A PLACE AS ANY! HEAVE AWAY, BOYS!



HO-HUM! BEAUTIFUL MORNING! BIRDS SINGING... SUN... WHAT'S THAT?! MATILDA! COME LOOK OUT THE WINDOW! WHAT'S THAT IN OUR SIDE LOT?



I THINK I HAVE A CRAZY MAN ON HERE! HE SAYS HIS NAME IS ALLEN - 64 SPRING STREET! CLAIMS SOMEONE MOVED THE PARK BANDSTAND INTO HIS YARD!

SPRING STREET? THANKS FOR THE TIP, RAMSAY! THE HEAROLD NEEDS A GOOD FEATURE STORY! MAYBE THIS IS IT! THE MYSTERY OF THE MISSING BANDSTAND!



JANET! LISTEN TO THIS! LAST NIGHT SOMEONE MOVED THE PARK BANDSTAND INTO THE ALLEN'S EMPTY LOT!

I CAN'T BELIEVE IT! LET'S GO OVER AND SEE IF IT'S REALLY TRUE! OF ALL THE CRAZY THINGS!

MYSTERY OF THE MISSING BANDSTAND
BANDSTAND TURNS UP IN BACKYARD OF ALLEN HOME ON SPRING STREET



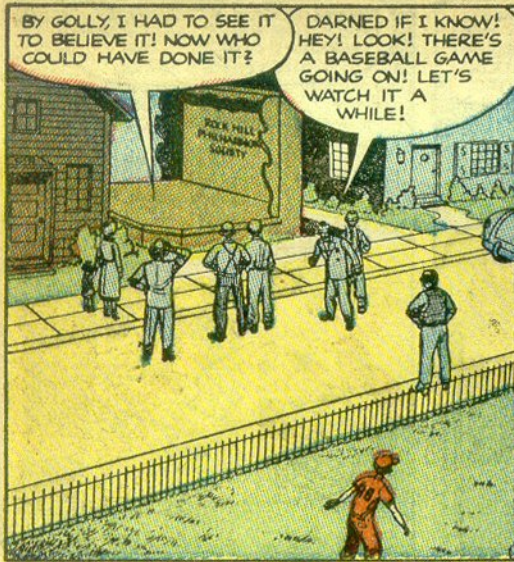
WHAT KIND OF SHENANIGANS ARE GOING ON HERE, WISE GUYS? FIRST THE BANDSTAND TAKES OFF IN THE NIGHT AND NEXT THE CONCERT FIELD IS ALL NEATLY ARRANGED FOR A BASEBALL GAME! IT WOULDN'T BE THAT YOU HAD ANYTHING TO DO WITH THE PERAMBULATING BANDSTAND WOULD IT?

WELL, ERRR... AS A MATTER OF FACT...



GEE, OFFICER MALONE, IT WAS ALL MY FAULT! WHEN THE RED EAGLES CHALLENGED US TO A RETURN GAME, WE COULDN'T TELL THEM OUR TOWN DIDN'T HAVE A FIELD! WE'LL PUT THE BANDSTAND BACK RIGHT AFTER THE GAME! WON'T YOU LET US FINISH THE GAME BEFORE YOU ARREST US?

WHAT DO YOU SAY, HALSEY? WE CAN ALWAYS ARREST 'EM AFTER THE GAME!



BY GOLLY, I HAD TO SEE IT TO BELIEVE IT! NOW WHO COULD HAVE DONE IT?

DARNED IF I KNOW! HEY! LOOK! THERE'S A BASEBALL GAME GOING ON! LET'S WATCH IT A WHILE!



WE CAME TO SEE IF THE BAND- STAND STORY WAS TRUE AND JUST HAPPENED TO SEE THIS GAME GOING ON! HOW IS IT?

THE KIDS ARE TERRIFIC! WHAT A LIVELY GAME! STICK AROUND!

STRIKE!



IS THAT YOU, PEE WEE? WHAT'S THIS I HEAR ABOUT YOU BOYS HAVING A HAND IN MOVING THE BAND- STAND?

JEEPERS, MR. SCOTT! IT WAS ALL BECAUSE WE NEEDED A BASEBALL FIELD! GOSH, I JUST REMEMBERED, YOU'RE PRESIDENT OF THE PHILHARMONIC SOCIETY! GEE, YOU AREN'T MAD AT US, TOO, ARE YOU? WE'LL PUT IT BACK! HONEST!



DON'T WORRY, PEE, WEE! I THINK YOU WERE VERY INGENUOUS! IF ANYONE TRIES TO RAISE A RUMPUS ABOUT IT, I'LL STAND UP FOR YOU! WHAT'S MORE, IF YOU CAN'T FIND A FIELD, I'LL TRY AND ARRANGE IT SO YOU CAN USE THIS ONE!

GEE! THAT'S SWELL OF YOU! WE SURE HAVE AN AUDIENCE! I'LL BET HALF THE TOWN'S HERE!



I JUST WISH THE PHILHAR- MONIC SOCIETY COULD SOLVE OUR CONCERT HALL PROBLEM AS EASILY! CAN'T YOU IMAGINE US MOVING NICKY'S POOL TABLES OUT INTO THE STREET IN THE DEAD OF NIGHT SO THAT WE COULD GIVE A CONCERT THE NEXT DAY?

MAYBE THERE'S SOMETHING WE COULD DO!



COULD WE BORROW YOUR HAT TO PASS AROUND, MISTER? YOU SEE, THIS IS SORT OF A BENEFIT GAME! IT'S FOR A VERY WORTHY CAUSE! JUST CONTRIBUTE WHATEVER YOU LIKE AND THEN JUST PASS YOUR HAT ALONG TO THE NEXT PERSON!

OKAY, SON!



WHERE HAVE YOU BEEN, PEE WEE? AND HOW'S THE GAME GOING?

OH, I HAD A LITTLE BUSINESS TO DO! THE GAME'S GOING FINE! FIFTH INNING AND WE'RE A RUN AHEAD - THREE TO TWO - TWO OUTS AND WEAZY IS ON THIRD! IF THE GUY AT BAT ISN'T PUT OUT, I'LL BE UP NEXT!

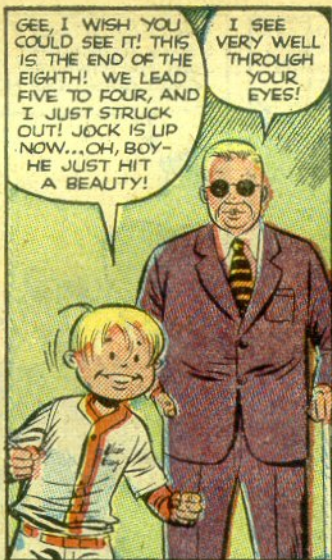


SHUCKS! HE STRUCK OUT! SEE YOU WHEN I COME BACK NEXT INNING! CROSS YOUR FINGERS THAT THE EAGLES DON'T CATCH ON TO JOCK'S FAST DROP! THAT'S WHAT'S KEEPING THEM FROM SCORING!

I'LL BE ROOTING FOR YOU!



ATTABOY, WEAZY! YOU SAVED THE DAY! THEY'D HAVE SCORED TWO RUNS WITH THAT CLOUT!



GEE, I WISH YOU COULD SEE IT! THIS IS THE END OF THE EIGHTH! WE LEAD FIVE TO FOUR, AND I JUST STRUCK OUT! JOCK IS UP NOW... OH, BOY- HE JUST HIT A BEAUTY!

I SEE VERY WELL THROUGH YOUR EYES!



YIPES! JOCK'S STEALING TO THIRD! THE BALL'S LEFT SECOND! HE CAN'T POSSIBLY... HE DID IT- HE'S SAFE!

SAFE!!



OH, BOY! WE WON! SIX TO FOUR!

HEY, KID, I'VE BEEN LOOKING ALL OVER FOR YOU! WHAT DO YOU WANT TO DO WITH THIS? I NEED MY HAT BACK!

GULP! 'SCUSE ME A MINUTE, MR. SCOTT!



OF ALL THE CRAZY THINGS TO DO! WE'RE IN ENOUGH TROUBLE ALREADY FOR MOVING THE BANDSTAND! WHY DID YOU SAY THIS WAS A BENEFIT FOR A WORTHY CAUSE? WE COULD BE ARRESTED FOR FALSE SOMETHING OR OTHER!

SHH- LET ME FINISH COUNTING! FIVE HUNDRED AND SIX DOLLARS.. AND... TWO CENTS! THERE! NOW LET ME EXPLAIN! IT'S NOT FOR US!



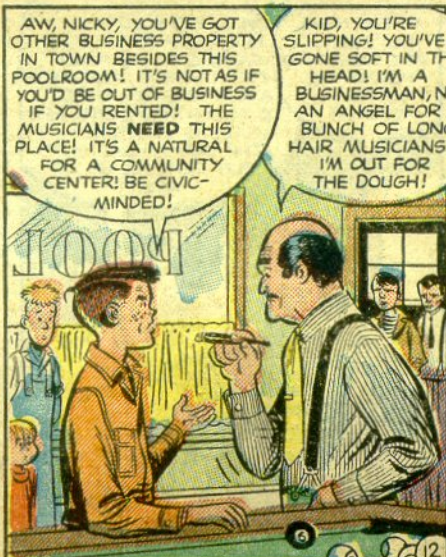
IT'S FOR THE PHILHARMONIC SOCIETY! THEY NEED FUNDS FOR AN IN-DOOR PLACE AND WE WERE ABLE TO RAISE IT BY USING THEIR FIELD! WITH ALL THIS MONEY WE MAY EVEN BE ABLE TO RENT NICKY'S POOLROOM!

HOW? WHY WOULD NICKY RENT TO US IF HE REFUSED AN OFFER FROM THE MUSICIANS! YOU MEAN WELL, PEE WEE!



WAIT A MINUTE! LET ME GET THIS STRAIGHT! DOES THE MUSICAL SOCIETY REALLY WANT TO RENT NICKY'S? I KNOW NICKY PRETTY WELL! I USED TO HANG OUT THERE ENOUGH! MAYBE I CAN TALK HIM INTO IT!

ATTA BOY, WEAZY! LET'S DO IT RIGHT NOW!



AW, NICKY, YOU'VE GOT OTHER BUSINESS PROPERTY IN TOWN BESIDES THIS POOLROOM! IT'S NOT AS IF YOU'D BE OUT OF BUSINESS IF YOU RENTED! THE MUSICIANS NEED THIS PLACE! IT'S A NATURAL FOR A COMMUNITY CENTER! BE CIVIC-MINDED!

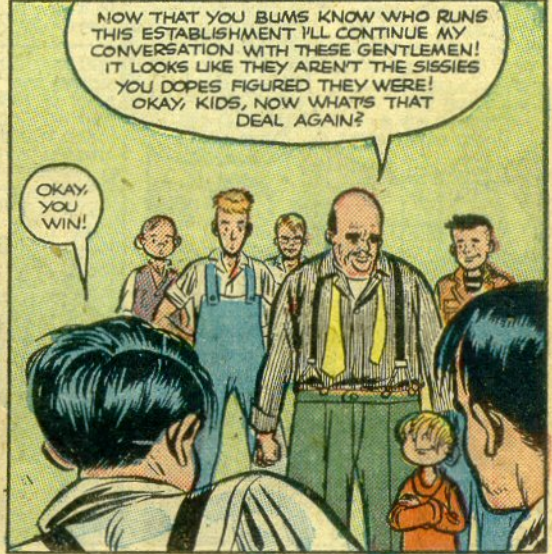
KID, YOU'RE SLIPPING! YOU'VE GONE SOFT IN THE HEAD! I'M A BUSINESSMAN, NOT AN ANGEL FOR A BUNCH OF LONG HAIR MUSICIANS! I'M OUT FOR THE DOUGH!



IF YOU'RE OUT FOR DOUGH, MAYBE THIS MIGHT INTEREST YOU! IT LOOKS TO ME AS IF YOU HAVE MORE GUYS HANGING AROUND THAN YOU HAVE PAYING CUSTOMERS!

HEY! MAYBE YOU HAVE SOMETHING THERE!

HOLD ON, NICKY! I HEARD THAT!





FREE MUSIC LESSONS! NOW AIN'T WE GETTING CLASSY!

THERE'S NOTHIN' SAYS WE AIN'T WELCOME! LET'S BARGE IN AND MAKE THINGS LIVELY!

IT OUGHTA BE GOOD FER A COUPLA LAUGHS! OHHH, TEACHER, I WANNA LEARN TO PLAY THE TUBA!



THOSE GUYS ARE GOING TO MAKE TROUBLE FOR MR. SCOTT! MAYBE WE SHOULD TRY AND HELP HIM OUT!

WE'D START A FIGHT FOR CERTAIN! MAYBE MR. SCOTT CAN HANDLE THEM BETTER ALONE! HE HAS A KNACK WITH TOUGH GUYS!



THE ROUGH AND TUMBLE BOYS HAD STILL TO CONTEND WITH MR. SCOTT'S PERSUASIVE PERSONALITY, AND WHEN THE WISE GUYS CAME BACK, THIS IS THE SCENE THAT MET THEIR EYES!

YOU MEN WHO CHOOSE WIND INSTRUMENTS WILL HAVE TO CUT DOWN ON YOUR SMOKING! YOU CAN SEE THAT IT TAKES GOOD LUNGS!

JEEPERS, CREEPERS! HOW CAN YA TELL A GUY LIKE HIM YOU WERE ONLY KIDDING? THE JOKE'S ON US!



YOU'RE THE BEST STUDENT I'VE HAD IN YEARS! IT'S AMAZING HOW YOU'VE GRASPED THE FUNDAMENTALS! WE HAVE THE MAKINGS OF A BAND RIGHT HERE!

I CAN REALLY MAKE MUSIC ON THIS TRUMPET! AND IF ANYONE THINKS THIS IS SISSY STUFF, I'D LIKE TO SEE THEM TRY IT!



IN A FEW BUSY DAYS NICKY'S POOL-ROOM WAS CONVERTED...

YOU WISE GUYS RAISED SO MUCH MONEY THAT WE WERE ABLE TO BUY A LOT OF NEW MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS AND WE STILL HAVE ENOUGH LEFT OVER FOR THE OPENING PARTY TONIGHT! THEY'LL BE IN FOR A BIG SURPRISE TONIGHT, WON'T THEY, WEAZY?

THEY SURE WILL!



LOOK! I MUST BE SEEING THINGS! IT CAN'T BE!



LOOK AT WEAZY! HE'S THE LEADER! HEY, LET'S ALL GET IN THE BAND!

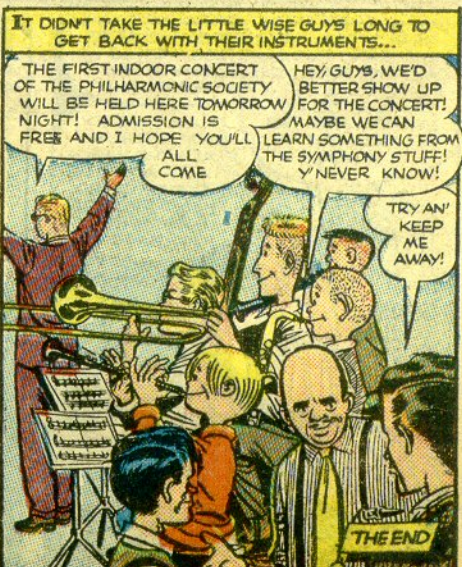
THAT'S NOTHING! LOOK WHO'S AT THE DRUMS! NICKY AND ALL THOSE TOUGH GUYS ARE PLAYING, TOO!

HEY, LET'S ALL OF US GET INTO THE BAND! I'LL GO HOME AND GET MY FLUTE!



MR. SCOTT! MY SON, WEAZY, IS YOUR BAND LEADER! HOW DID YOU EVER DO IT?

ALL I DID WAS TO ENCOURAGE HIM TO TRY! THE ABILITY WAS ALWAYS THERE! HE HAS A GREAT CAREER AHEAD OF HIM! YOU'LL HAVE NO MORE TROUBLE WITH HIM!



IT DIDNT TAKE THE LITTLE WISE GUYS LONG TO GET BACK WITH THEIR INSTRUMENTS...

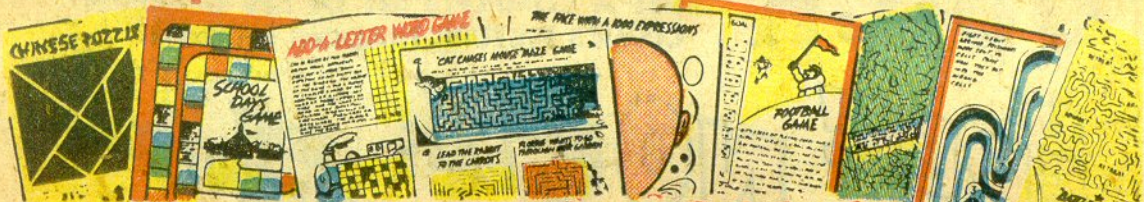
THE FIRST INDOOR CONCERT OF THE PHILHARMONIC SOCIETY WILL BE HELD HERE TOMORROW NIGHT! ADMISSION IS FREE AND I HOPE YOU'LL ALL COME

HEY, GUYS, WE'D BETTER SHOW UP FOR THE CONCERT! MAYBE WE CAN LEARN SOMETHING FROM THE SYMPHONY STUFF! Y'NEVER KNOW!

TRY AN' KEEP ME AWAY!

THE END

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- I enclose \$1.00, Send postage paid.
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Homecrafts

Dept. 299

799 Broadway,
New York 3, N. Y.

QUICK

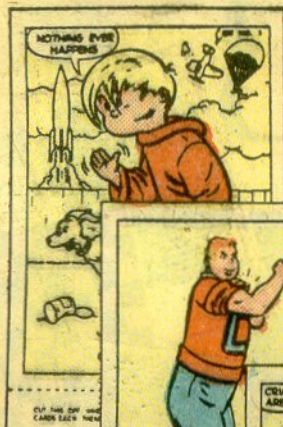
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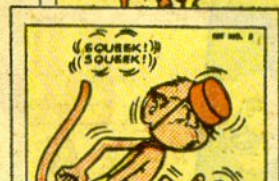
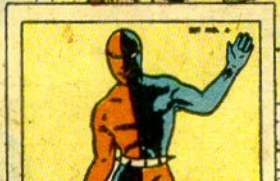
IT'S EASY!



HERE'S ALL YOU HAVE TO DO!

YOU WILL FIND A SPECIAL TRADING CARD COUPON ON THE TOP OF THE FIRST PAGE OF THIS MAGAZINE. UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE, THESE COUPONS WILL BE FOUND IN ALL OF THE FOLLOWING LEV GLEASON COMICS: CRIME DOES NOT PAY, BOY, CRIME AND PUNISHMENT, DAREDEVIL AND BLACK DIAMOND.

JUST SEND US **TWO** OF THESE COUPONS AND WE WILL SEND YOU **FREE** ONE SET OF TRADING CARDS. YOU CAN PICK YOUR OWN SETS. THEY ARE LISTED IN THE BOX ON THE OPPOSITE PAGE. THERE ARE 5 SETS IN ALL. COLLECT AS MANY AS YOU LIKE. JUST REMEMBER TO SEND TWO COUPONS FOR EACH SET. TAKE THE COUPONS FROM ANY OF THE LEV GLEASON COMICS MENTIONED ABOVE (CRIME DOES NOT PAY, CRIME AND PUNISHMENT, DAREDEVIL, BOY AND BLACK DIAMOND). THEY WILL ALL HAVE COUPONS, WAITING FOR YOU, ON THE FIRST PAGE OF EVERY ISSUE.



HERE ARE THE SETS

When you send your coupons, choose the set or sets you want. Order them by number — but each set is COMPLETE and cards in each set CANNOT be changed. Order more sets as you want more cards.

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PEE WEE GRUESOME JONES
IRON JAW

SET NO. 2
WISE GUYS GROUP
CRIMEBUSTER AND SQUEEKS
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SET NO. 3
CHIP GARDNER BUMPER CURLY

SET NO. 4
SCARECROW DAREDEVIL
DILLY DUNCAN

SET NO. 5
BLACK DIAMOND AND RELIAPON
SQUEEKS
HOT ROCK FLANAGAN

THIS IS A SAMPLE OF THE COUPON YOU NEED TO GET YOUR TRADING CARDS. YOU WILL FIND IT ON THE FIRST INSIDE PAGE OF EACH MAGAZINE. THIS SAMPLE COUPON HAS NO VALUE. DON'T USE IT.



WHEN YOU SEND YOUR COUPONS, PASTE THEM ON A POST CARD OR ATTACH THEM TO THE HANDY ORDER BLANK ON THIS PAGE. BE SURE TO ORDER YOUR SET BY NUMBER AND BE SURE TO PRINT YOUR NAME AND ADDRESS CLEARLY. SEND TO:

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LEV GLEASON PUBLICATIONS, INC.
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NEW YORK 16, N. Y.**

YOU AND YOUR FRIENDS WILL BE CRAZY ABOUT THESE WONDERFUL PICTURES. EACH IS PRINTED ON HEAVY CARDBOARD 2 3/8" X 3 3/8", IN HANDSOME FULL COLOR. ALL YOUR FRIENDS WILL ENVY YOU. TRADE DUPLICATE CARDS FOR FAVORITES. BUILD UP THE FIRST AND BEST COLLECTION!

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ORDER BLANK

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Enclosed are _____ trading picture coupons cut from Lev Gleason Comics. Please send me the following sets of pictures (2 coupons entitle me to 1 set of 3 pictures).

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AIR DEVILS

starring

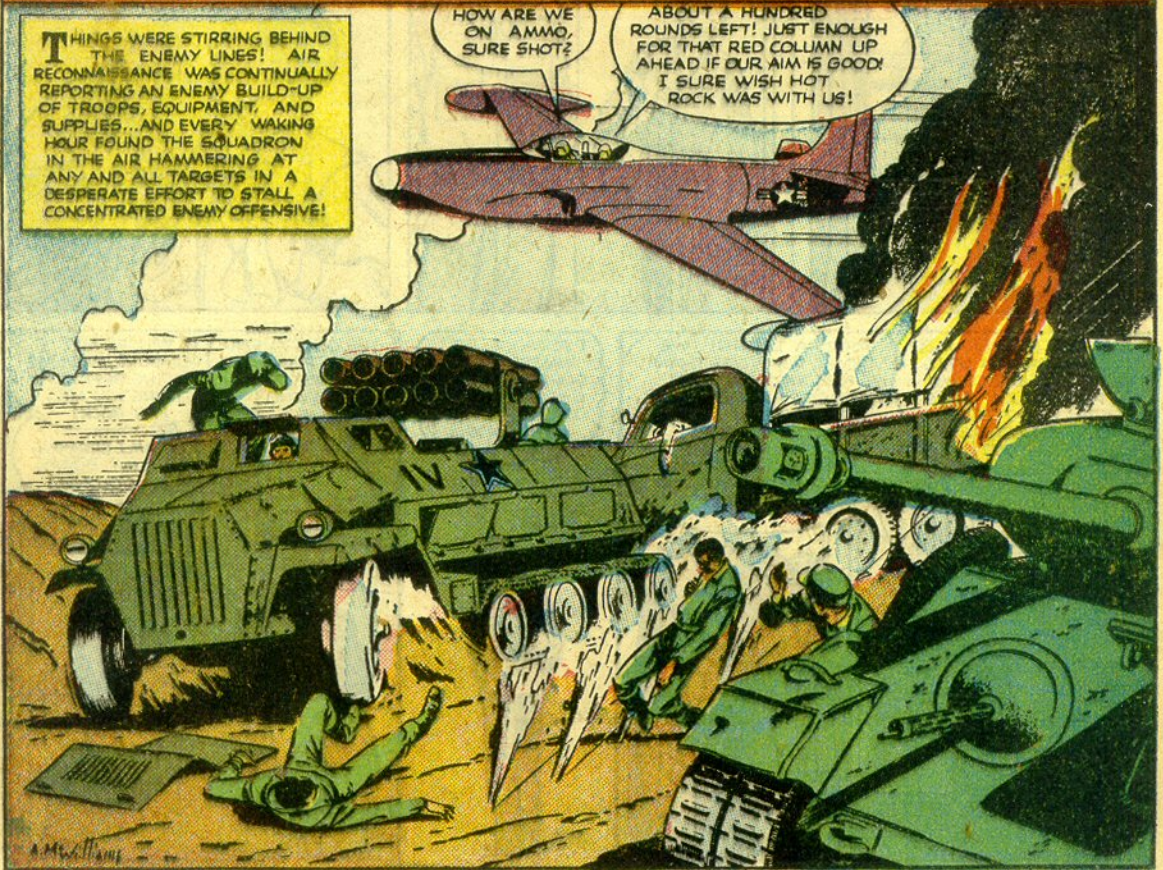
CHAPTER VII

"HOT ROCK" FLANAGAN

THINGS WERE STIRRING BEHIND THE ENEMY LINES! AIR RECONNAISSANCE WAS CONTINUALLY REPORTING AN ENEMY BUILD-UP OF TROOPS, EQUIPMENT, AND SUPPLIES... AND EVERY WAKING HOUR FOUND THE SQUADRON IN THE AIR HAMMERING AT ANY AND ALL TARGETS IN A DESPERATE EFFORT TO STALL A CONCENTRATED ENEMY OFFENSIVE!

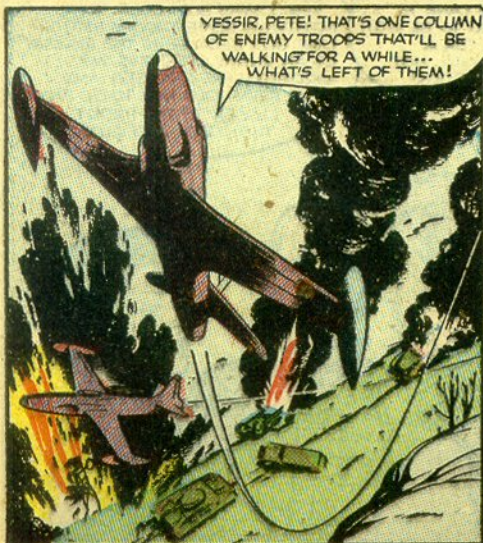
HOW ARE WE ON AMMO, SURE SHOT?

ABOUT A HUNDRED ROUNDS LEFT! JUST ENOUGH FOR THAT RED COLUMN UP AHEAD IF OUR AIM IS GOOD! I SURE WISH HOT ROCK WAS WITH US!



YESSIR, PETE! THAT'S ONE COLUMN OF ENEMY TROOPS THAT'LL BE WALKING FOR A WHILE... WHAT'S LEFT OF THEM!

WILSON FLIGHT...COME ON IN...WE'RE TOO LOW ON AMMO, SO WE'LL HEAD FOR HOME! SOME NAVY BOYS ARE COMING IN TO TAKE OVER...



ALL THE SQUADRON'S PILOTS WERE FLYING CONSTANTLY EXCEPT ONE...



HI, HOT ROCK! YOU SHOULD'VE BEEN WITH THE FLIGHT TODAY! WE CAUGHT A RED CONVOY TRYING TO SNEAK DOWN A CANYON ROAD! BOY! DID WE CLOBBER 'EM!



HOW COME YOU'RE FLYING, SURE SHOT?



AS LONG AS YOU'RE GROUNDED WITH YOUR FLU GERMS I HAVE NO PLANE TO RIDE...SO I'VE TEAMED UP WITH PETE WINSLOW! HIS REAR SEAT MAN WAS WOUNDED YESTERDAY! HOW ARE YOU FEELIN' TODAY, PAL?

THERE'S NOTHIN' WRONG WITH ME THAT TEN MINUTES IN THE AIR WON'T CURE!



BUT THAT BIRD-BRAINED MEDICAL OFFICER STILL WON'T PRONOUNCE ME FIT FOR FLYING! SAYS I STILL CAN'T TAKE THE HIGH ALTITUDE STUFF YET!



THAT'S A LAUGH! WE DIDN'T FLY MORE THAN A HUNDRED FEET OFF THE DECK ALL MORNING! HEY! THAT REMINDS ME...THE COLONEL JUST TOLD ME HE WANTS TO SEE YOU OVER IN OPERATIONS RIGHT AWAY!

I SUPPOSE HE WANTS ME TO SUPERVISE THE GARBAGE DETAIL! I WONDER WHAT HE WANTS...



THE GENERAL SAID YOU'D TAKE GOOD CARE OF ME, COLONEL!



IT WILL BE MY PLEASURE, MISS LANE! I'M THE BEST...OH, THERE YOU ARE, HOT ROCK!

AM I BREAKING IN? SORRY, COLONEL!

NO, HOT ROCK, COME IN! MISS LANE, THIS IS LIEUTENANT HOT ROCK FLANAGAN...MISS LANE IS A CORRESPONDENT FOR THE AMALGAMATED PRESS...



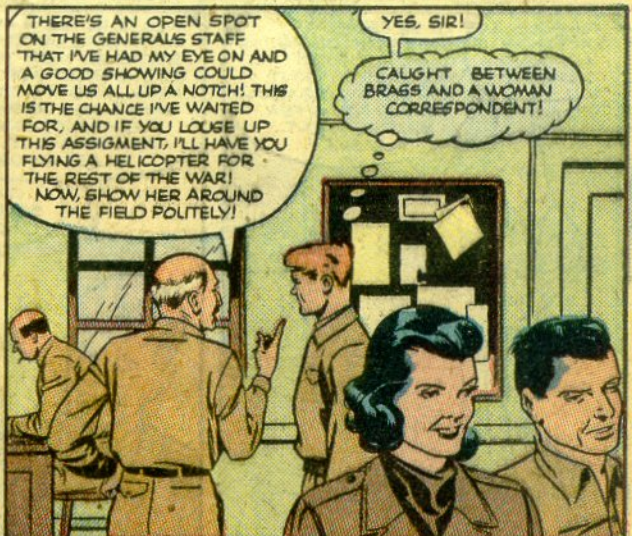
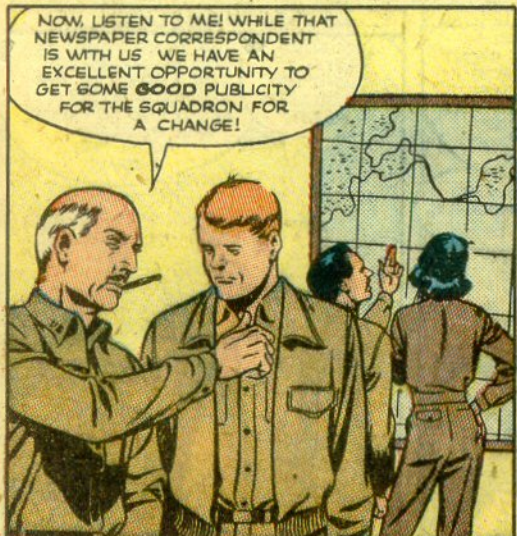
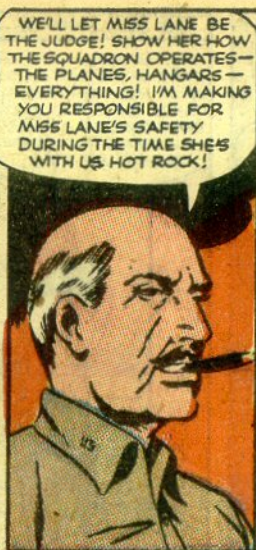
YOU'RE MUCH TOO FORMAL, COLONEL! PLEASE CALL ME NINA!

Y-YES, MA'AM-ER... MISS LANE... I MEAN, NINA! HOW DO YOU DO?

MISS LANE IS GOING TO BE WITH US FOR A WHILE, HOT ROCK!



YES, I WAS SUPPOSED TO INTERVIEW SOME TROOPS IN THE LINE, BUT BECAUSE OF THE RUMORS OF AN ENEMY OFFENSIVE, MY ORDERS WERE CHANGED AND I'VE BEEN TOLD NOT TO GO ANY CLOSER TO THE FRONT THAN THIS AIRFIELD!





I'LL BET I WOULDN'T TAKE UP AS MUCH SPACE IN THE COCKPIT OF YOUR PLANE, HOT ROCK!

GUESS YOU WOULDN'T... YOU'RE... WELL... JUST ABOUT RIGHT SIZE

WOO! WOO!



THE NEXT MORNING...

YOU'VE TAKEN VERY GOOD CARE OF ME, HOT ROCK! I KNOW NOW WHAT WORK IT TAKES TO KEEP AN AIRFIELD OPERATING... BUT THERE'S ONE THING YOU HAVEN'T SHOWN ME YET!

YOU NAME IT, NINA, AND I'LL SHOW IT TO YOU!



WELL, ANY ARTICLE I MIGHT WRITE ABOUT AN AIRFIELD WOULDN'T BE COMPLETE IF I DIDN'T EXPERIENCE THE THRILL OF RIDING IN A JET! MAYBE JUST A FEW MINUTES FLIGHT TO THE FRONT LINES, FOR INSTANCE...



OH, GOLLY, I DON'T KNOW... IF ANYTHING HAPPENED...

I'D BE PERFECTLY SAFE WITH YOU AS THE PILOT, HOT ROCK! WOULDN'T YOU DO IT FOR ME? NO ONE WOULD MISS US FOR A FEW MINUTES FLIGHT... PLEASE?



WELL, I DO KNOW SOME GUYS IN AN ARTILLERY OUTFIT STATIONED NEAR THE FRONT ONLY A SHORT HOP FROM HERE... AND THE COLONEL SAID I WAS TO SHOW YOU EVERYTHING! CAN'T BE ANY HARM IN IT... OKAY, I'LL GET MY GEAR!

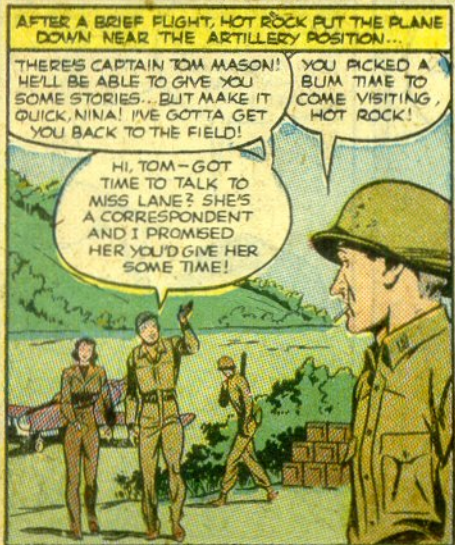
OH, YOU'RE SO WONDERFUL, HOT ROCK!



... AND A FEW MINUTES LATER...

HEY, SURE SHOT— I THOUGHT HOT ROCK COULDN'T FLY YET!

THAT DAME TALKED HIM INTO TAKING HER UP FOR A SPIN! IF THE COLONEL FINDS OUT ABOUT THIS, HOT ROCK WILL BE SAFER WITH THE ENEMY!



AFTER A BRIEF FLIGHT, HOT ROCK PUT THE PLANE DOWN! NEAR THE ARTILLERY POSITION...

THERE'S CAPTAIN TOM MASON! HE'LL BE ABLE TO GIVE YOU SOME STORIES... BUT MAKE IT QUICK, NINA! I'VE GOTTA GET YOU BACK TO THE FIELD!

YOU PICKED A BUM TIME TO COME VISITING, HOT ROCK!

HI, TOM— GOT TIME TO TALK TO MISS LANE? SHE'S A CORRESPONDENT AND I PROMISED HER YOU'D GIVE HER SOME TIME!



WHY TOM! WHAT'S UP? YOU LOOK UPSET!

I HAVE GOOD REASON TO BE, HOT ROCK! THE ENEMY'S JUST STARTED HIS PUSH AND OUR SPOTTER PLANE IS GROUNDED BECAUSE THE PILOT GOT HIMSELF WOUNDED! THERE'S NO ONE TO FLY THE PLANE WHICH IS NEEDED BADLY SO WE CAN GIVE MAXIMUM ARTILLERY SUPPORT TO OUR GROUND ACTION!



SO AS THINGS ARE YOU'D BETTER GET YOUR LADY-FRIEND OUT OF HERE, HOT ROCK! IT'S GONNA BE ROASTING HOT AROUND HERE ANY MINUTE!

LOOK, TOMMY, YOU NEED A PILOT— SO WHAT'S WRONG WITH ME? YOU TAKE CARE OF MISS LANE HERE AND I'LL FLY A MISSION FOR YOU!

GOOD IDEA!



THERE'S A STORY FOR YOU, MISS LANE! HOT JET PILOT FLIES A PIPER CUB! THAT HOT ROCK COULD FLY A BARN DOOR IF IT HAD ENOUGH HORSE POWER!



IT'S BEEN A LONG TIME SINCE I'VE HANDLED ONE OF THESE KITES... AFTER THE JET'S SPEED, I FEEL LIKE I'M TIED TO A POST!



HOT ROCK IS KEPT BUSY FOR THE NEXT HALF-HOUR, FINDING TARGETS AND RELAYING THE CO-ORDINATES BACK TO THE BIG GUNS...

...CROSS-OFF HOUSES AT 2107-1708... GIVE ME A TRIAL ROUND AT 2200-1801! THERE ARE SOME TRUCKS ON A CROSS-ROADS THERE!

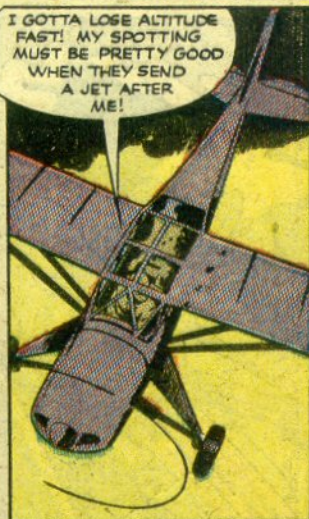


SUDDENLY, AS HOT ROCK BANKS LAZILY OVER ANOTHER TARGET...

WOW! I GOT SOME HOT COMPANY!



A M.I.G IS! AN' HE WANTS MY SCALP IN HIS TEPEE!



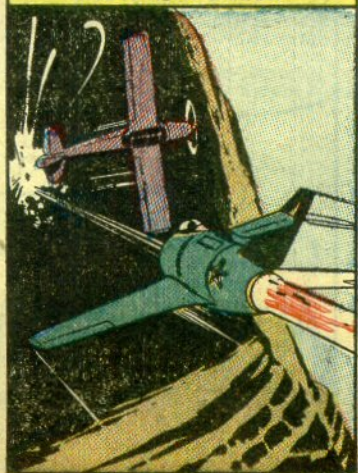
I GOTTA LOSE ALTITUDE FAST! MY SPOTTING MUST BE PRETTY GOOD WHEN THEY SEND A JET AFTER ME!

HOT ROCK HUGS THE GROUND AND GOES THROUGH VARIOUS EVASIVE MANEUVERS WHILE DODGING THE PASSES OF THE ENEMY JET...



I CAN'T KEEP THIS UP FOREVER! MAYBE I CAN SHAKE HIM OFF IN THOSE MOUNTAINS AHEAD...

HOT ROCK FLIES THE SMALL PLANE UP A CANYON, AND WHEN THE JET SWEEPS DOWN FOR ANOTHER ATTACK, HE FLIPS THE LITTLE SHIP OVER INTO A TIGHT BANK...

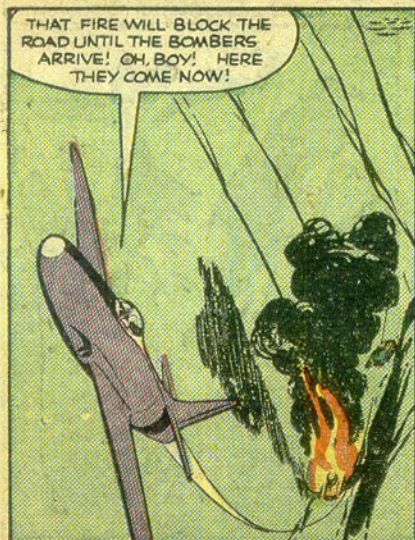
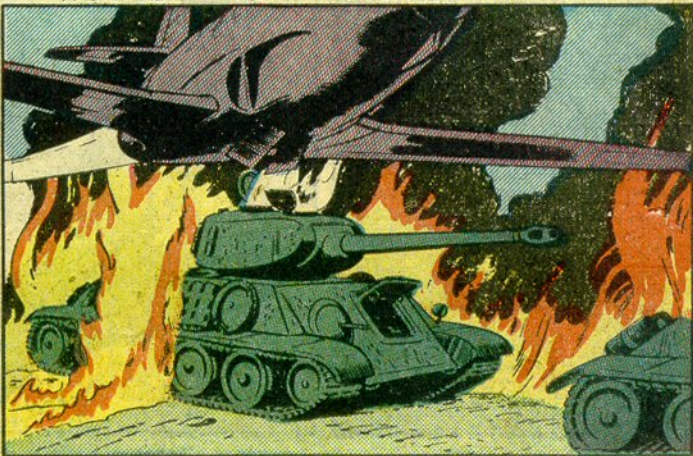


THE JET PILOT SEES HIS ERROR TOO LATE! HE TRIES DESPERATELY TO PULL OUT...





HOT ROCK RAKES THE COLUMN OF ENEMY ARMOR WITH ROCKETS AND MACHINE-GUN FIRE... THEN AS HE REACHES THE LEAD TANKS IN THE COLUMN, HE RELEASES HIS GASOLINE FIELED WING TANKS! THE GAS SPRAYS OVER THE HOT ENGINES AND EXHAUSTS OF THE FIRST TWO LUMBERING TANKS!



THE END

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MONKEY BUSINESS



"BUT Squeeks has never done a thing like this before," exclaimed Crimebuster to Looover.

"I know, C.B.," answered Looover. "I've never known Squeeks to leave your shoulder for more than two minutes."

"And a monkey just doesn't *disappear*," continued Crimebuster, "at least not a monkey like Squeeks!"

"Can you think of anything lately that has particularly interested Squeeks?" asked Looover. "I mean anything or anyone he might like to see again for some strange reason?"

"I'm stumped, Looover," Crimebuster mused as he scratched his head. "Squeeks was more loyal than any animal I've ever known or ever had. Oh, of course, he makes friends easily, but I can't believe he'd leave me cold."

Just as Crimebuster finished the sentence the door opened. Johnny Owen walked sheepishly in, looking a little the worse for wear after an afternoon of baseball practice.

"What's the matter, Johnny?" asked Crimebuster, noticing the look of dismay on the boy's face.

"Well, C.B.," Johnny muttered, "I knew about Squeeks, I mean, er, I knew you'd lost Squeeks and..."

"Yes?" queried Looover. "What is it Johnny?"

"Well," Johnny continued boldly, "I found this!" He pulled from behind his back a little red hat. It was dirty and tattered.

"Oh!" gulped Crimebuster, "that's Squeeks' hat. Where did you find it, Johnny?"

"In the park," answered Johnny.

"Where in the park?" queried Crimebuster.

"Between the baseball park and the zoo," continued Johnny, "in the road!"

Crimebuster immediately looked worried, assuming the worst, as Johnny already had. He continued, however, "And that's all you found, Johnny? No other sign of Squeeks?"

"That's all, C.B.," answered Johnny, "and I looked pretty carefully. But, you know there are lots of bushes there. He might have been, er, ah, hiding."

"Yes, you're right, Johnny," answered Crimebuster. As Johnny left the room the phone rang. Looover

answered and handed the receiver to Crimebuster. "May be good news, C.B., it's Mr. Harris, the zoo-keeper."

Crimebuster eagerly grabbed the telephone. "Yes, Mr. Harris, what can I do for you?"

Mr. Harris was talking in such a loud, excited voice that Looover could hear him say, "C.B., I know you understand monkeys and I wish you could come out here. Our monkey has gone absolutely wild. Knowing how well you have trained Squeeks I thought maybe you could handle this demon. This place will be bedlam if we don't calm this animal down!"

"Well, Mr. Harris," answered Crimebuster, "I'll come on out, but I must say I'm disappointed in the news. I thought you might have found Squeeks."

"Found Squeeks?" answered Mr. Harris. "What's happened? Is he missing?"

"Yes," sadly answered Crimebuster, "I lost him this afternoon. But, tell me, what seems to be the matter with your monkey?"

"Everything! Everything!" answered Mr. Harris in an exasperated tone. "He seems to have gone mad. His cage is right by the lion's cage and he keeps reaching in and pulling the lion's mane. The lion roars in rage and that sets off the whole zoo. You can probably hear the racket now."

"I can," answered Crimebuster, hearing a rumble and a roar behind the excited voice of Mr. Harris.

"And, worst of all," continued Mr. Harris, "the monkey stole my keys. He can't work the lock from the inside but it leaves me helpless. I can't go in to either feed or calm down any of the other animals!"

"Well, Mr. Harris, I'll be right out. I don't know if I can handle any monkeys other than Squeeks, but I'll try. In the meantime if you see Squeeks let me know." Crimebuster terminated the conversation.

Crimebuster couldn't keep from laughing as he spoke to Looover. "All this monkey trouble in one day. Well, I guess I'd better see what I can do at the zoo."

As Crimebuster opened the door to rush off to the zoo he bumped into Johnny Owen who again was coming in the door.

"Why, Johnny, back again! Any news?" queried Crimebuster.

"News, I should say so!" answered Johnny, just as Crimebuster noticed he was holding a monkey upside down, two legs in each hand. "I found Squeeks!"

"Squeeks! Well, Johnny, you certainly deserve congratulations. Come on in." Crimebuster exclaimed.

Johnny, the monkey and Crimebuster went back in the room and closed the door.

"But Johnny," Crimebuster said, "that's no way to carry a monkey."

"This is the only way I could carry Squeeks. He was so wild, I had to. I guess you're the only one who can handle him, C.B.," answered Johnny.

"Put him down, Johnny. Okay. Hi Sq . . . hey, that isn't Squeeks!" gasped Crimebuster as Johnny let the monkey go. The monkey went wild, jumped on Looover's desk, up on Looover's head and leaped to the top of the nearest picture where he dangled precariously.

"Johnny, where did you find that monkey?" asked Crimebuster incredulously.

"Well, gee, C.B.," apologetically answered Johnny. "I was walking home and I just saw him on a telephone pole. I was so sure it was Squeeks and I was afraid he'd be electrocuted, so I climbed up after him. Then he was so mean, I thought something was wrong. He clawed and scratched and wouldn't let me bring him down. I had a terrible time. That's why I had to carry him that way, so he wouldn't get away again. But, if this isn't Squeeks, who is it?"

"I wish I knew, Johnny," answered Crimebuster. "It isn't often you see monkeys climbing up telephone poles. Wait a minute! Come on, Johnny, get that monkey down and let's go!"

Johnny looked puzzled but pleased, jumped on Looover's desk and grabbed the monkey from the swinging picture. The monkey squawked and scratched but Johnny tightened his grip and the monkey came along, much against his will.

As Johnny tried to keep up with Crimebuster's long strides he pantingly asked, "Where are we going?"

"Remember where I was when I lost Squeeks this afternoon?" asked Crimebuster.

"Sure, you were in the park and we were practicing baseball," answered Johnny.

"That's right. And I have an idea. You know the zoo is right across the street and it just so happens that the zookeeper just called me," continued Crimebuster.

"I don't get it," puzzled Johnny.

Crimebuster hastened his strides and before long the two walked breathlessly through the gates of the zoo and into the office of the zookeeper.

"Well, C.B.," sighed Mr. Harris with relief, "It didn't take you long to get here. But," he continued when he saw Johnny with the monkey, "how did that critter get out?" Don't tell me that blamed animal was smart enough to work the keys."

"You never can tell," mused Crimebuster, "however, let's get this monkey back where he belongs."

Mr. Harris grabbed the monkey from Johnny, much to Johnny's relief, and with fire in his eyes and on his tongue he scolded the monkey as if he were a child.

The three of them walked toward the monkey cage to the tune of the pandemonium in the zoo. The lions were roaring, the sea lions were roaring, the tigers were pacing and the birds were screeching. As they approached the monkey cage Mr. Harris stopped dead in his tracks.

"But, but," he muttered, "the monkey is here! What monkey is this? What is going on?"

They looked up at the monkey cage to see the monkey happily swinging on his trapeze by his tail, the large key ring hung on a convenient branch of his tree.

Crimebuster was laughing so hard he could hardly get any words out. Finally he went over to the cage and said, "Hey, Squeeks, bring me those keys and I'll let you out."

Mr. Harris and Johnny were rooted to the spot. The monkey jumped from the trapeze to the tree and brought the keys to Crimebuster. Crimebuster unlocked the door, the monkey jumped to his shoulder and proceeded to nibble at his ear in an affectionate sort of way.

"Now, Johnny, put the monkey in his cage and lock him up," Crimebuster instructed.

"But," muttered Mr. Harris, "I don't understand."

"What time do you go in the cages to feed the animals?" queried Crimebuster.

"Oh, about four o'clock," answered Mr. Harris.

"That's the only solution I can figure out," continued Crimebuster. "We'll probably never know, but Squeeks must have wandered over here this afternoon and walked into the cage at feeding time just as the other monkey walked out."

"Well, I'll be," answered the befuddled Mr. Harris as he clutched his keys tightly in both hands.

THE END

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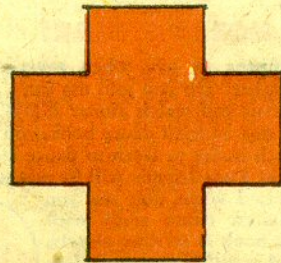
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By **SIDNEY M. ELIAS**

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One day, the two boys quarrelled over the location of a site for their proposed city of Rome. Romulus set up the boundaries on the site where he and his brother were cast ashore years before. Remus did not like the location and made fun of the boundary wall set up by Romulus and leaped over it. In heated anger, Romulus struck and slew his brother and immediately regretted it.

Some time later after the city of Rome was started, Romulus was holding a review of his army when suddenly the skies grew dark and a storm fell upon them. The people fled in terror. When the storm was over and the people returned, Romulus was not to be found. The belief of the people was that during the darkness, thunder and lightning of the storm, Romulus' father Mars, carried him off to the dwelling place of the gods.

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the LITTLE WISE GUYS

and "THE ANGEL"

MONEY ISN'T EVERYTHING IN LIFE, BUT IT SURE GOES A LONG WAY IN SHOW BUSINESS! ASK ANY PLAYWRIGHT! THE CHORE OF WRITING A PLAY IS FUN AND CANDY STICKS COMPARED WITH THE MOUNTAINOUS TASK OF FINDING ANGELS TO BACK IT! AND WITH MONEY IN HAND AND READY TO GO, JUST WHEN EVERYTHING SEEMS ROSY-COZY, WHAM BAM, ALACAZAM, THE ANGEL WANTS TO SHOW YOU HOW TO ACT IT, HOW TO WRITE IT, HOW TO DIRECT IT! THIS STORY IS DEDICATED TO ALL THE WRINKLED BROWS OF THEATERDOM AND THE ULCERED AUTHORS WHO HAVE "YEGGED" THEIR WAY TO SUCCESS IN SPITE OF THE OVERWHELMING ODDS OF THE ANGELS! ASK THE LITTLE WISE GUYS WHAT THEY'D RATHER DO, OR GO FISHING!

Charles Biro

STORY BY
CHARLES BIRO

William OVERGARD

STOP! SCARECROW, IF YOU DON'T GET YOUR LINES STRAIGHT, THE PLAY WILL BE RUINED! IT'S A MYSTERY, MELODRAMA—NOT A FARCE! **THINK** WHAT IT MEANS—IT'S THE FIRST PLAY I'VE EVER WRITTEN! THE REST OF YOU ARE FINE! YOUR ACTING AS BUTLER IS PERFECT, CURLY! AND PEE WEE IS GREAT AS THE FAVORITE NEPHEW. BUT YOU, SCARECROW WITH THE MOST IMPORTANT ROLE... YOU...

?GULP: I'M SORRY, JOCK! I'M TRYING! MAYBE I'LL SNAP OUT OF IT AT DRESS REHEARSAL TOMORROW!

I'M SICK AND TIRED OF WAITING FOR ALL YOU PESTS TO DIE SO I CAN GIVE A RED CENT TO MY NEPHEW, JOSHUA! NOW GET OUT, ALL OF YOU!

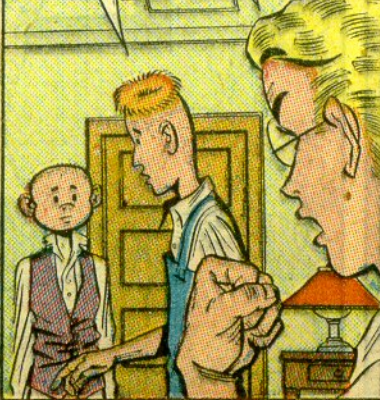
NO! NO! NO! YOU'VE DONE IT AGAIN! THE LINES SHOULD READ, "I'M SICK AND TIRED OF ALL YOU PESTS WAITING AROUND FOR ME TO DIE! NO ONE GETS A RED CENT OF MY MONEY EXCEPTING MY NEPHEW, JOSHUA!" AND FURTHERMORE, THIS IS NO LAUGHING MATTER, THE REST OF YOU!

HA, HA, HA, HA, HA!

I'M-SICK-AND-TIRED-OF-YOU-PESTS-WAITING UH-WAITING AROUND FOR ME TO DIE! NO-ONE-GETS-A-RED-CENT-OF-MY-MONEY...

NOW THE LINES ARE RIGHT, BUT YOU SOUND AS IF YOU WERE, READING A GROCERY ORDER! **ACT!** PUT YOURSELF IN THE PART!

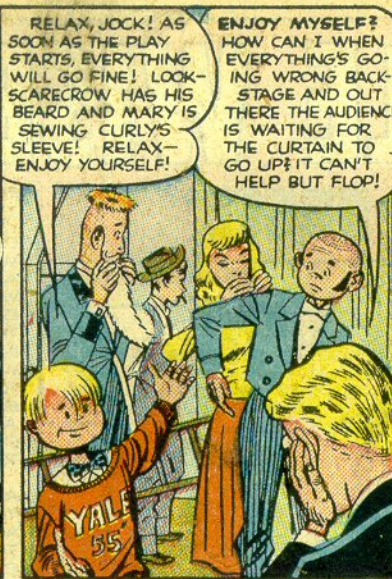
YOU'RE A RICH OLD MAN! ALL YOUR RELATIVES ARE SIMPLY WAITING FOR YOU TO DIE, SO THEY CAN INHERIT YOUR MONEY! THEY DON'T LOVE YOU! YOU FEEL THAT ONLY YOUR NEPHEW CAN BE TRUSTED! YOU'RE MAD! YOU'RE SUSPICIOUS OF SOME KIND OF INTRIGUE GOING ON! YOU'RE TELLING THEM OFF... **OH, WHAT'S THE USE!** GO ON WITH THE PLAY—TO THINK WE OPEN TOMORROW NIGHT!





WOW—EVERYONE IN TOWN MUST BE THERE! IT'S A SELLOUT! AREN'T YOU EXCITED, JOCK—ON YOUR FIRST PLAY!

I WISH I'D NEVER WRITTEN IT! HERE, IT'S FIVE MINUTES TILL CURTAIN TIME AND SCARECROW CAN'T FIND HIS BEARD! THE SLEEVE RIPPED IN CURLY'S COAT AND THE FRONT DOOR OF THE LIVING ROOM SET STICKS!



RELAX, JOCK! AS SOON AS THE PLAY STARTS, EVERYTHING WILL GO FINE! LOOK—SCARECROW HAS HIS BEARD AND MARY IS SEWING CURLY'S SLEEVE! RELAX—ENJOY YOURSELF!

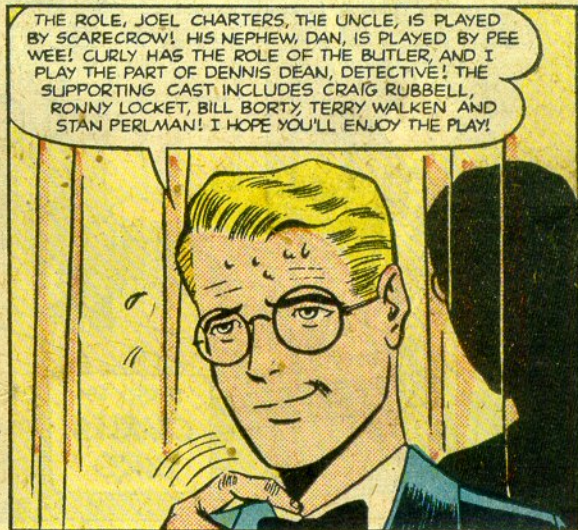
ENJOY MYSELF? HOW CAN I WHEN EVERYTHING'S GOING WRONG BACK-STAGE AND OUT THERE THE AUDIENCE IS WAITING FOR THE CURTAIN TO GO UP! IT CAN'T HELP BUT FLOP!



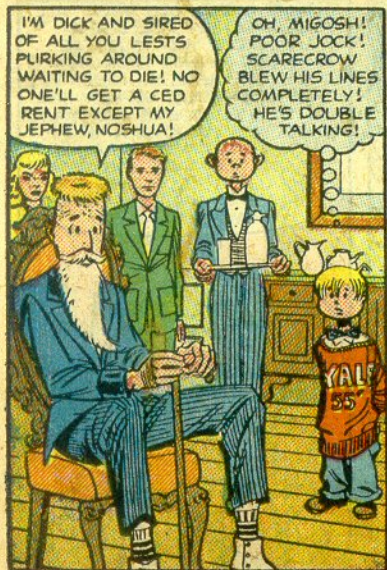
NO, IT WON'T! WE'LL MAKE THEATRICAL HISTORY TONIGHT! NOW GET OUT THERE AND MAKE YOUR CURTAIN SPEECH! BE CONFIDENT! EVERYTHING WILL BE OKAY!



TONIGHT'S PLAY, "FIRST IN LINE", IS A MYSTERY MELODRAMA SHOWING THE SERIOUS CONSEQUENCES OF GREED AND HOW IT AFFECTS THE LIVES OF A FAMILY! AS THE PLAY PROGRESSES YOU WILL SEE HOW A ONCE HAPPY FAMILY ALLOWS SELFISHNESS AND DISTRUST TO DESTROY ITS UNITY UNTIL DEATH STRIKES AND CLAIMS THE INNOCENT, AND THE GUILTY!

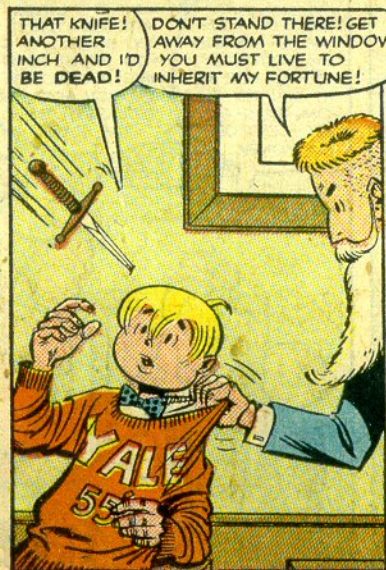


THE ROLE, JOEL CHARTERS, THE UNCLE, IS PLAYED BY SCARECROW! HIS NEPHEW, DAN, IS PLAYED BY PEE WEE! CURLY HAS THE ROLE OF THE BUTLER, AND I PLAY THE PART OF DENNIS DEAN, DETECTIVE! THE SUPPORTING CAST INCLUDES CRAIG RUBBELL, RONNY LOCKET, BILL BORTY, TERRY WALKEN AND STAN PERLMAN! I HOPE YOU'LL ENJOY THE PLAY!



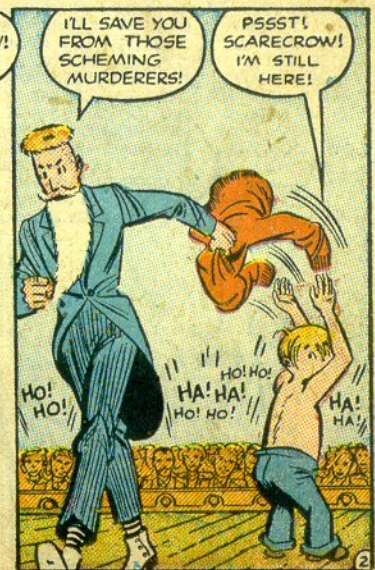
I'M DICK AND SIRED OF ALL YOU LESTS PURKING AROUND WAITING TO DIE! NO ONE'LL GET A CED RENT EXCEPT MY JEPHEW, NOSHUA!

OH, MIGOSH! POOR JOCK! SCARECROW BLEW HIS LINES COMPLETELY! HE'S DOUBLE TALKING!



THAT KNIFE! ANOTHER INCH AND I'D BE DEAD!

DON'T STAND THERE! GET AWAY FROM THE WINDOW! YOU MUST LIVE TO INHERIT MY FORTUNE!



I'LL SAVE YOU FROM THOSE SCHEMING MURDERERS!

PSST! SCARECROW! I'M STILL HERE!



HA! HA! HA! FUNNIEST PLAY I'VE SEEN IN YEARS!

THE SECOND ACT WAS EVEN FUNNIER THAN THE FIRST!

THIS IS PRICELESS — A SERIOUS MELODRAMA! HA! HA! HA!



I CAN'T EVEN BEAR TO SEE THE END! IS IT NEARLY OVER? WE'LL BE THE LAUGHINGSTOCK OF TOWN!

THE FINAL CURTAIN JUST CAME DOWN! GEE, JOCK, I DIDN'T THINK IT WAS SO BAD!



THEY LAUGHED AT MY PLAY!

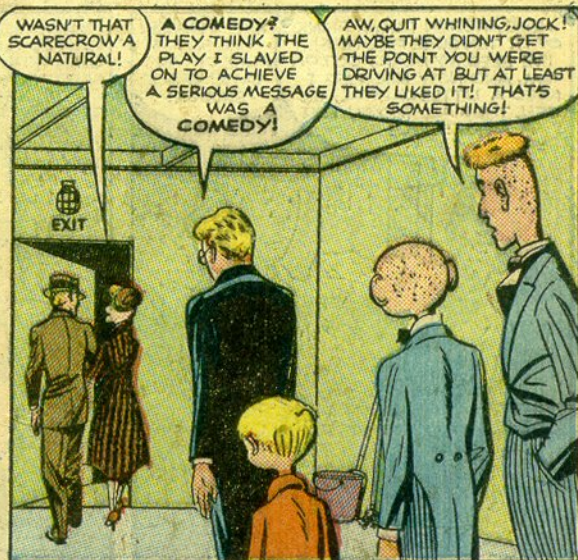
IT WAS ALL MY FAULT, JOCK! I MESSSED UP MY LINES! THEY WERE LAUGHING AT ME — NOT THE PLAY!

I GUESS IT WAS THE WAY WE ACTED THAT WAS FUNNY! THE PLAY WAS FINE, THOUGH!



THE PLAY WAS TERRIFIC! A HILARIOUS COMEDY!

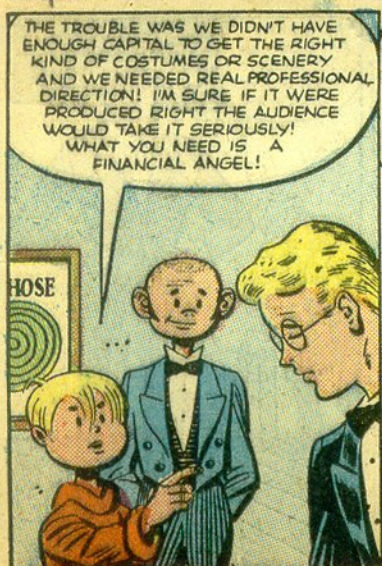
I'VE NEVER LAUGHED HARDER! SUCH A FEELING FOR COMEDY! YOU'LL BE A HUGE SUCCESS, JOCK! HUMOROUS PLAY — WRIGHTS ARE A RARE COMMODITY!



WASN'T THAT SCARECROW A NATURAL!

A COMEDY? THEY THINK THE PLAY I SLAVED ON TO ACHIEVE A SERIOUS MESSAGE WAS A COMEDY!

AW, QUIT WHINING, JOCK! MAYBE THEY DIDN'T GET THE POINT YOU WERE DRIVING AT BUT AT LEAST THEY LIKED IT! THAT'S SOMETHING!



THE TROUBLE WAS WE DIDN'T HAVE ENOUGH CAPITAL TO GET THE RIGHT KIND OF COSTUMES OR SCENERY AND WE NEEDED REAL PROFESSIONAL DIRECTION! I'M SURE IF IT WERE PRODUCED RIGHT THE AUDIENCE WOULD TAKE IT SERIOUSLY! WHAT YOU NEED IS A FINANCIAL ANGEL!



PEE WEE IS RIGHT! LET'S PUT AN AD IN THE PAPER ASKING FOR SOMEONE WITH DOUGH TO INVEST IN YOUR PLAY!

WELL... THAT IS AN IDEA! THAT'S HOW MOST BIG BROADWAY PLAYS GET PRODUCED AT THAT!

WHO'S GOT PAPER AND PENCIL! WRITE AN AD RIGHT AWAY!



HERE IT IS, JUST THE WAY WE WROTE IT! *PLAYWRIGHT SEEKS FINANCIAL BACKER TO HELP PRODUCE BRILLIANT NEW MYSTERY MELODRAMA — CONTACT THE LITTLE WISE GUYS, RED BARN, ROUTE 21! I WONDER HOW LONG IT WILL BE BEFORE WE HEAR FROM SOMEONE?

I'M NOT SURE, BUT THIS MAY BE THE SOME-ONE RIGHT NOW!

BREAKING INTO THE THEATRICAL GAME IS A TOUGH PROPOSITION! YOU NEED KNOW-HOW NO MATTER HOW GOOD A PLAYWRIGHT YOU ARE! NOW I HAVE THIS LITTLE BOOK HERE! IT TELLS YOU ALL THE INSIDE DOPE ON WRITING PLAYS PRODUCING THEM, GETTING FINANCIAL BACKING! IT'S A LITTLE GOLD MINE AND ONLY THREE-FIFTY!

YOU HAVE NO SALES RESISTANCE, JOCK! HERE COMES SOMEONE ELSE! HE LOOKS LIKE A BETTER PROSPECT!

I HAVE A TERRIFIC PROPOSITION! ALL I NEED IS \$100 TO PRODUCE MY PLAY! YOU LEND ME \$100, AND WITH THE PROFITS YOU GET FROM THE PLAY I'VE WRITTEN, ONCE IT GETS ON BROADWAY YOU'LL BE ABLE TO PRODUCE YOUR OWN PLAY WITHOUT NEEDING A FINANCIAL ANGEL! THAT'S A PRETTY GOOD OFFER, ISN'T IT?

HERE ARE TEN PLAYS! THINK OF IT! TEN SURE FIRE HITS! I'VE BLED MY HEART OUT ON 'EM, AND NOW BECAUSE I NEED A LITTLE CAPITAL, I'LL SELL THEM ALL TO YOU FOR A MERE \$500!

NO THANKS! I'VE GOT A PLAY OF MY OWN! ONE IS ENOUGH!

PHOOEY! SOME ANGELS - ALL WEEK LONG IT'S BEEN NOTHING BUT NUTTY PLAYWRIGHTS, SALESMEN, REPRESENTATIVES FROM PHONY DRAMA INSTITUTES! NOT ONE LEGITIMATE BACKER IN THE WHOLE LOT!

LOOK, JOCK! A LETTER FOR YOU FROM CANADA! MAYBE IT'S ABOUT THE AD, BUT DON'T BE TOO HOPEFUL! THE PENMANSHIP IS TERRIBLE!

WHOEVER WROTE THIS COULDN'T EVEN SIGN HIS NAME TO A CHECK! IT SOUNDS LIKE SOME TEN YEAR OLD'S IDEA OF A BAD JOKE!

DEAR WISE GUYZ
I RED YOUR AD AND WOULD LIKE INVEST IN YOUR PLAY. I HAVE ANY AMOUNT OF MONEY YOU NEED. I AWATE ANXIOUSLY FOR ARRANGEMENTS TO MEAT PERZOHLY. PLEEZE RELY,
GRUFFIE ZIMPLETON

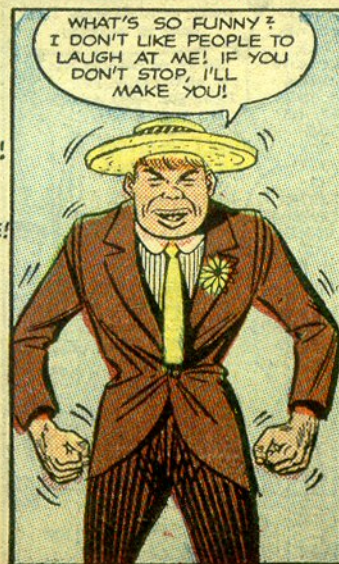
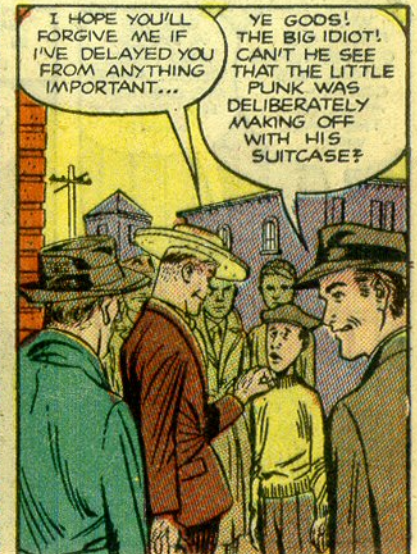
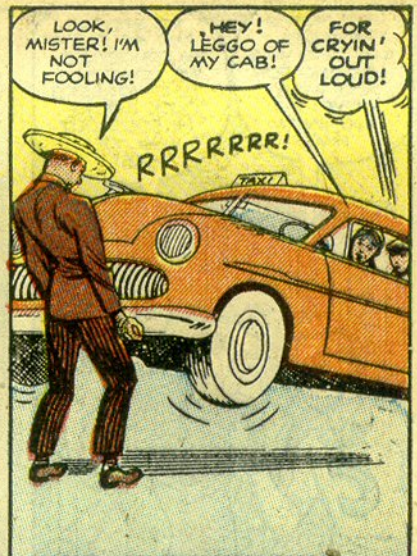
EVEN THE SIGNATURE SOUNDS LIKE A GAG! WHAT A NAME! I GUESS ANGELS ARE HARDER TO FIND THAN WE THOUGHT! MAYBE WE'D BETTER JUST VACATION A FEW DAYS!

IT'S NO USE! I'VE TRIED ALL WEEK TO GET THE PLAY OFF MY MIND BUT I CAN'T! MAYBE WE SHOULD GO AND SEE SOME PRODUCERS!

HEY, WISE GUYS! THERE'S A GREAT BIG MAN DOWN AT THE TRAIN STATION AND HE WAS ASKING FOR YOU!

DON'T BOTHER US, PETE! WE'VE GOT THINGS ON OUR MIND!

NOW HOW AM I GOING TO FIND THEM PLAY-WRIGHTS!





HEY! THAT'S THE SAME GUY WHO WAS LOOKING FOR YOU WISE GUYS! DO YOU KNOW HIM?

NO, STOOKEE, AND AS FAR AS I'M CONCERNED, WE DON'T INTEND TO! LET'S DUCK BEFORE HE FINDS OUT WHO WE ARE!



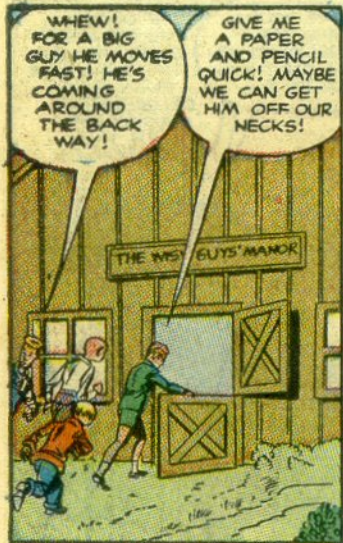
YOU! YOU'RE THE BOY WHO SAID HE KNEW WHERE I COULD FIND THE LITTLE WISE GUYS! I FORGOT THE DIRECTIONS! YOU SHOW ME!

OUCH! YOU'RE HURTING MY SHOULDER! IF YOU WANT 'EM, THERE THEY ARE!



HEY! WAIT! I WANT TO TALK TO YOU!

OOOPS! IT LOOKS LIKE STOOKEE PUT THE FINGER ON US! HURRY! WE CAN SHAKE THE BIG GOOK, IF WE RUN!



WHEW! FOR A BIG GUY HE MOVES FAST! HE'S COMING AROUND THE BACK WAY!

GIVE ME A PAPER AND PENCIL QUICK! MAYBE WE CAN GET HIM OFF OUR NECKS!



"AWAY ON VACATION... BACK IN TWO WEEKS! THE LITTLE WISE GUYS!"

GOSH! SINCE I'VE COME ALL THIS WAY I CAN WAIT! TWO WEEKS AIN'T TOO LONG!



YIPES! THE GUY IS SETTling DOWN TO STAY! WE'LL NEVER GET RID OF HIM UNLESS WE FIND OUT WHAT HE WANTS!

I GUESS I'D BETTER TALK TO HIM! WE CAN'T HIDE IN HERE FOR TWO WEEKS!



WHAT IS IT YOU WANT? I'M JOCK! WE CHANGED OUR MINDS ABOUT GOING ON VACATION!

GOSH... THAT'S GOOD! I'M GLAD TO MEET YOU! I'M GRUFFIE SIMPLETON! I WROTE YOU WISE GUYS A LETTER! DID YOU GET IT? IT WAS ALL HAND WRIT BY ME!



NICE OF YOU TO GIVE ME A LITTLE SNACK! NOW LET'S TALK BUSINESS! I'M HERE TO FINANCE YOUR PLAY! I DECIDED NOT TO WAIT FOR YOUR ANSWER ANY LONGER! TELL ME ABOUT THE PLAY!

PSST! NOW I'M SURE THIS GUY IS NUTTY!

EASY, SCARECROW, HE MAY LOSE HIS TEMPER AND WRECK THE BARN!

NICE WEATHER WE'RE HAVING! ARE YOU RETURNING TO CANADA SOON?



DON'T CHANGE THE SUBJECT! I'M HERE UNTIL THE PLAY IS PRODUCED! WHEN I SAW YOUR AD, I SAID THAT'S FOR ME! I'VE WANTED TO BE TIED IN WITH THE THEATYER ALL MY LIFE!

OH-HH! I'M TERRIBLY SORRY BUT... UH... I ALREADY HAVE A BAKER! THAT'S WHY I DIDN'T ANSWER YOUR LETTER!



OH!! NOW WHAT WILL I DO? D'YOU MIND IF I PHONE HOME? I WANT TO TALK TO POPPA!

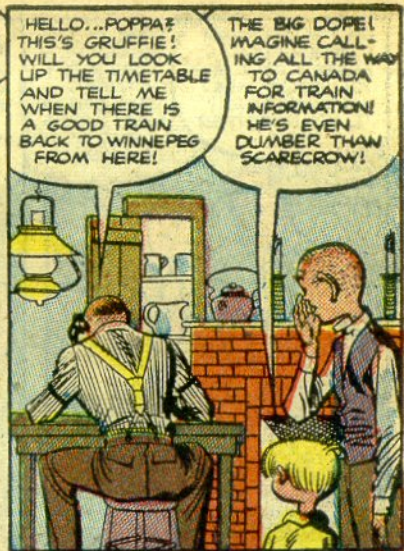
YIPES! A CALL TO CANADA! WHAT A NERVE!

IF YOU REVERSE THE CHARGES, SURE!



I GUESS THIS WILL COVER THE CHARGES... HELLO, OPERATOR... GIVE ME WINNEPEG 7777...

FIND OUT THE CHARGES AND LEAVE THE MONEY ON THE TABLE!



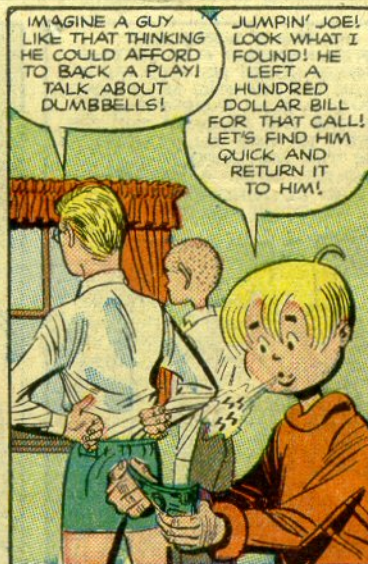
HELLO... POPPA? THIS'S GRUFFIE! WILL YOU LOOK UP THE TIMETABLE AND TELL ME WHEN THERE IS A GOOD TRAIN BACK TO WINNEPEG FROM HERE!

THE BIG DOPE! IMAGINE CALLING ALL THE WAY TO CANADA FOR TRAIN INFORMATION! HE'S EVEN DUMBER THAN SCARECROW!



I'M SO DISAPPOINTED! I WANTED TO INVEST IN YOUR PLAY! IF YOU EVER WRITE ANOTHER ONE, LET ME KNOW!

OH, POSITIVELY! WELL, GOOD-BY, AND LOTS OF LUCK! MAYBE YOU'LL FIND SOMEONE WITH A PLAY YOU CAN BACK!



IMAGINE A GUY LIKE THAT THINKING HE COULD AFFORD TO BACK A PLAY! TALK ABOUT DUMBBELLS!

JUMPIN' JOE! LOOK WHAT I FOUND! HE LEFT A HUNDRED DOLLAR BILL FOR THAT CALL! LET'S FIND HIM QUICK AND RETURN IT TO HIM!



I COULDN'T FIND HIM! I TRIED EVERY POSSIBLE PLACE!

HEY, LOOK WHAT ELSE I FOUND UNDER OUR TABLE! A BIG ROLL OF HUNDRED DOLLAR BILLS! HE MUST BE RICH ALL RIGHT! LET'S GO HOME! HE'LL BE COMING BACK FOR IT BY NOW!



NO ONE REMEMBERS SEEING HIM AT THE RAILROAD STATION! I GUESS OUR BEST BET IS TO TURN IT OVER TO THE POLICE!

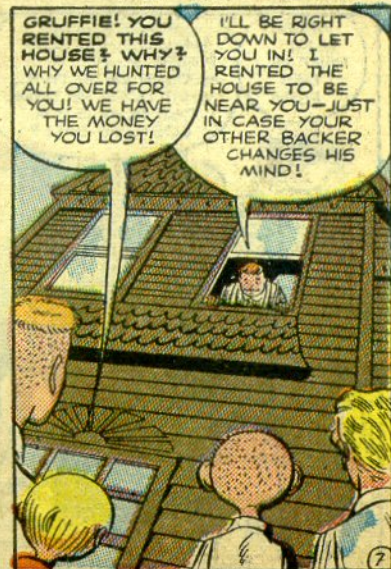
WHERE DO YOU S'POSE HE EVER GOT A WAD OF DOUGH LIKE THAT? MAYBE HE CAN BACK THE PLAY!

I WOULDN'T HAVE THE HEART TO TAKE IT! IT'S HIS LIFE'S SAVINGS!



LOOK! THE GAYNOR HOUSE IS FINALLY RENTED! I WONDER WHO OUR NEW NEIGHBOR WILL BE?

WOW! JUST LOOK UP AND YOU'LL SEE!



GRUFFIE! YOU RENTED THIS HOUSE? WHY? WHY WE HUNTED ALL OVER FOR YOU! WE HAVE THE MONEY YOU LOST!

I'LL BE RIGHT DOWN TO LET YOU IN! I RENTED THE HOUSE TO BE NEAR YOU—JUST IN CASE YOUR OTHER BACKER CHANGES HIS MIND!



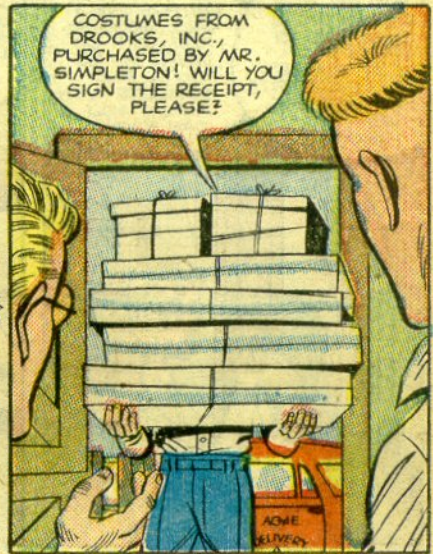
LOOK AT THE MONEY HE'S GOT! AND TO THINK I THOUGHT HE WAS JUST A PHONY SCREWBALL!



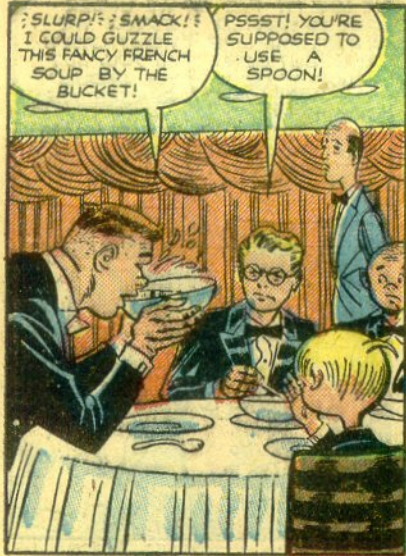
I CAN'T BELIEVE IT! DO YOU REALLY MEAN YOU'LL LET ME HELP PRODUCE IT?



BUT DON'T YOU WANT TO SET A LIMIT—OR HAVE A SIGNED CONTRACT?



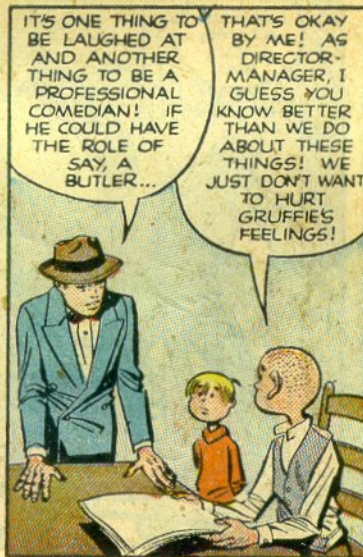






NO, JONES! FIRST OF ALL IT'S SUPPOSED TO BE A SERIOUS PLAY AND BESIDES, THAT GRUFFIE HATES TO BE LAUGHED AT! IT WOULD NEVER WORK!

YOU MIGHT DO GRUFFIE SOME GOOD...MAYBE CURE HIM OF HIS PHOBIA! IF HE SAW THAT HE WAS SUCCESSFUL HE MIGHT GET A DIFFERENT SLANT!



IT'S ONE THING TO BE LAUGHED AT AND ANOTHER THING TO BE A PROFESSIONAL COMEDIAN! IF HE COULD HAVE THE ROLE OF SAY, A BUTLER...

THAT'S OKAY BY ME! AS DIRECTOR-MANAGER, I GUESS YOU KNOW BETTER THAN WE DO ABOUT THESE THINGS! WE JUST DON'T WANT TO HURT GRUFFIE'S FEELINGS!



IF YOU WANT THE FIRST NIGHT CURTAIN TO GO UP WITH GRUFFIE IN THE CAST, YOU'D BETTER WARN EVERYONE NOT TO LAUGH DURING REHEARSALS, OTHERWISE HE'D WRECK THE PROPS, ACTORS AND EVERY-THING!

YOU'LL SEE! EVERYTHING WILL WORK OUT AND IN THE END HE'LL THANK US FOR HELPING HIM!



THE MURDERER HAS BEEN CAPTURED SO WE HAVE NO MORE TO FEAR!

FINE! SPLENDID! THAT WILL BE ALL! GET A GOOD REST TONIGHT AND BE ON YOUR TOES FOR THE OPENING TOMORROW NIGHT!



HOW WAS I? DID I DO IT RIGHT? I'M SO SCARED I'LL FORGET MY LINES TOMORROW NIGHT! GEE, WAIT TILL THE FOLKS READ ABOUT HOW I'M A REAL GENUINE BROADWAY ACTOR!

YOU'LL BE FINE, GRUFFIE! JUST CONCENTRATE ON YOUR PART! DON'T PAY ANY ATTENTION TO THE AUDIENCE! THE PLAY IS THE THING!



AT 8:45, THE CURTAIN RISES ON THE STRANGE YOUNG CAST! THE FIRST NIGHTERS HAVE FILLED THE HOUSE...

MR. CHARTERS, THE POLICE ARE OUTSIDE AND THEY HAVE DISCOVERED A BODY IN THE PETUNIA BED!



HA-HA-HA! HE'S A SCREAM! NOW I CAN UNDERSTAND HOW HE COULD WRECK THE DORK CLUB! HA-HA!

IT'S THE WAY HE SAYS IT- AND THOSE GESTURES! AND TO THINK HE'S A BILLIONAIRE BACKWOODS-MAN! HA! HA! HA!

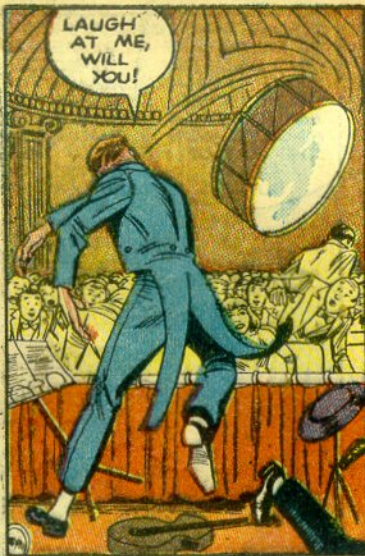


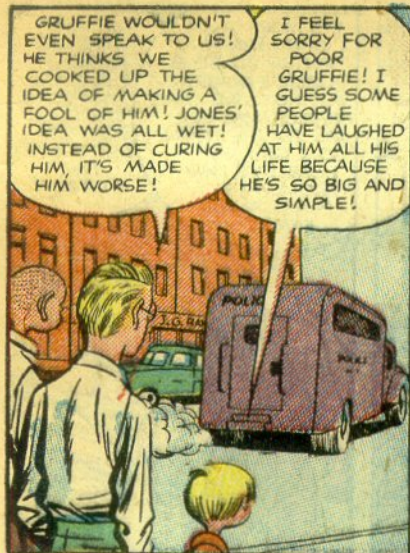
ANYONE CAN BE MURDERED...I MEAN ANYONE CAN BE A MURDERER...I...THE POLICE... THEY'RE LAUGHING AT ME!



WHY DO YOU LAUGH AT ME? WHY? STOP! STOP! SHUT UP? THIS IS A SERIOUS PLAY!

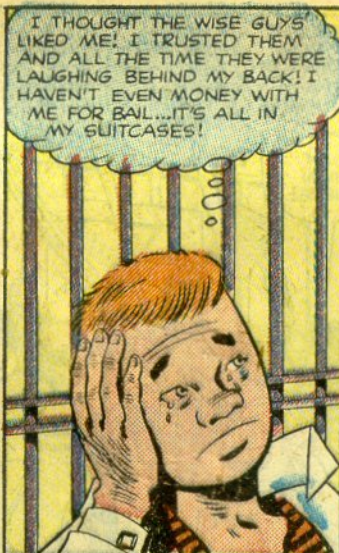
HA HA! HO HO HO! TERRIFIC! HO! HO!





GRUFFIE WOULDN'T EVEN SPEAK TO US! HE THINKS WE COOKED UP THE IDEA OF MAKING A FOOL OF HIM! JONES' IDEA WAS ALL WET! INSTEAD OF CURING HIM, IT'S MADE HIM WORSE!

I FEEL SORRY FOR POOR GRUFFIE! I GUESS SOME PEOPLE HAVE LAUGHED AT HIM ALL HIS LIFE BECAUSE HE'S SO BIG AND SIMPLE!



I THOUGHT THE WISE GUYS LIKED ME! I TRUSTED THEM AND ALL THE TIME THEY WERE LAUGHING BEHIND MY BACK! I HAVEN'T EVEN MONEY WITH ME FOR BAL...IT'S ALL IN MY SUITCASES!



COME ALONG, GRUFFIE! I BAILED YOU OUT! I'D HAVE BEEN HERE SOONER, BUT THE THEATER WAS A MADHOUSE! REPORTERS... NEWSREELS, TELEVISION... TALK ABOUT PUBLICITY! WE'RE SOLD OUT FOR SIX MONTHS AND YOUR CAREER AS A COMEDIAN IS ASSURED!

NO THANKS! I'M THROUGH! FINISHED!



GRUFFIE HASN'T BUDGED OUT OF HIS HOUSE ALL DAY! HE WON'T OPEN THE DOOR FOR ANYONE! I'M WORRIED ABOUT HIM, PEE WEE! MAYBE YOU COULD CRAWL THROUGH THAT BROKEN CELLAR WINDOW AND TELL HIM HOW SORRY WE ARE!

I CAN TRY! IF HE TOSSES ME OUT, BE READY TO CATCH ME!



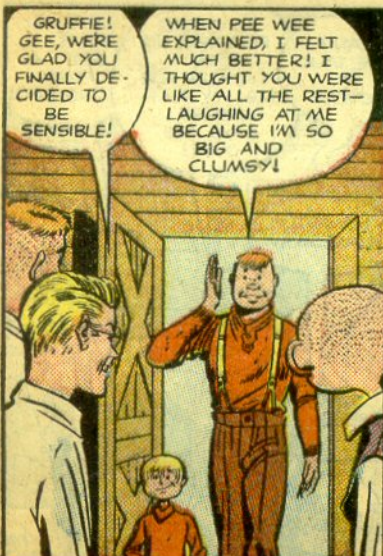
HOW DID YOU GET IN? GET OUT! I WON'T TALK TO YOU!

THEN JUST LISTEN! I CAME TO TELL YOU THAT WE ALL FEEL TERRIBLE ABOUT WHAT HAPPENED! IT WASN'T OUR IDEA!



JONES THOUGHT YOU WOULDN'T MIND A COMEDY ROLE ONCE YOU SAW HOW SUCCESSFUL YOU COULD BE! WE SHOULD NEVER HAVE LET HIM TALK US INTO IT, BUT IT SOUNDED VERY CONVINCING! HOW ABOUT FORGIVING US?

ULP... SNIFF... F-F... YES! I KNOW YOU BOYS MEANT WELL!



GRUFFIE! GEE, WERE GLAD YOU FINALLY DECIDED TO BE SENSIBLE!

WHEN PEE WEE EXPLAINED, I FELT MUCH BETTER! I THOUGHT YOU WERE LIKE ALL THE REST—LAUGHING AT ME BECAUSE I'M SO BIG AND CLUMSY!



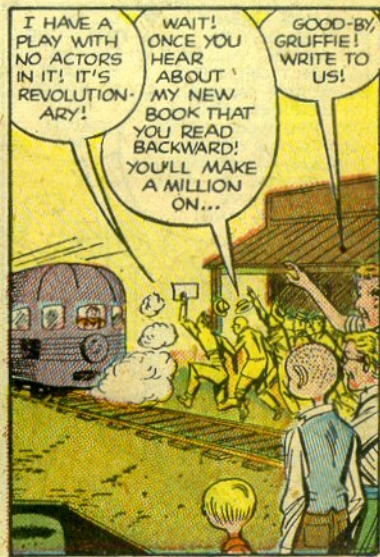
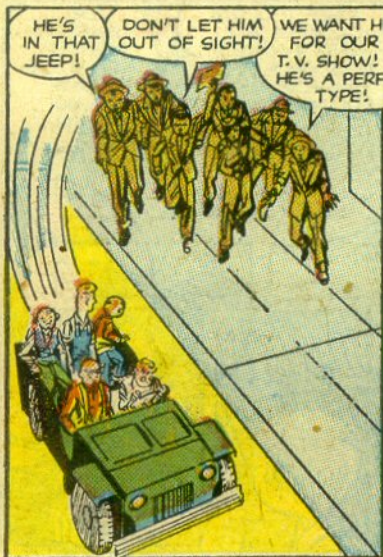
WE'LL FORGET ABOUT THAT PLAY! I'D LIKE YOU TO WRITE ANOTHER ONE... A REAL SERIOUS THING... MAYBE LIKE HAMLET, ONLY BETTER! I'LL INVEST A MILLION! IS THAT ENOUGH?

OH... NO! NOT THAT! NEVER AGAIN!



YOU GO AHEAD AND WRITE THE PLAY... CAN YOU DO IT IN A WEEK? I'LL RENT A REALLY GOOD PLACE... MAYBE RADIO CENTER... WE'LL HAVE THE BIGGEST AND THE BEST!

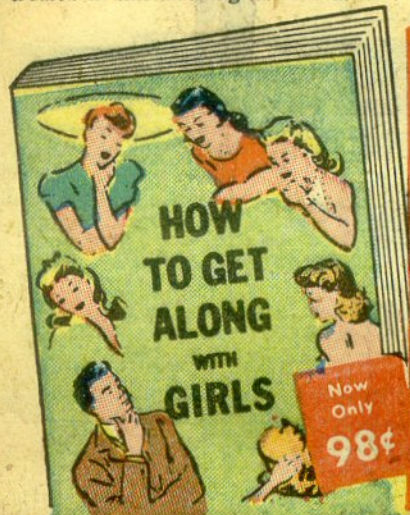
HE'S SERIOUS!



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...when You Know How!

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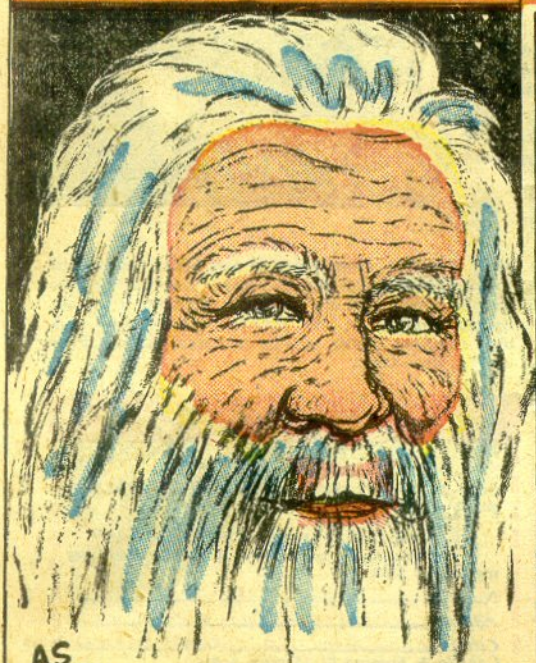
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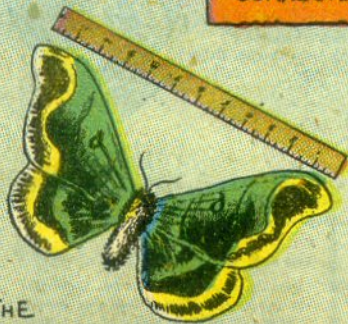
by C.H. MOORE



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ACCORDING TO HISTORICAL AUTHORITIES - A YEAR, AT THE TIME OF ABRAHAM, WAS 3 MONTHS LONG! THEN IT WAS EXTENDED TO 8 MONTHS AND AT THE TIME OF JOSEPH, BECAME 12 MONTHS LONG. ACCORDINGLY - METHUSELAH, WHO IS SAID TO HAVE LIVED 900 YEARS WOULD ACTUALLY HAVE BEEN 200 YEARS OLD, WHICH AUTHORITIES BELIEVE POSSIBLE AT THAT TIME!

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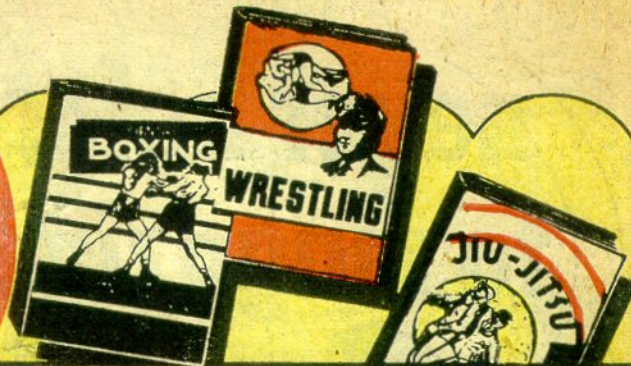
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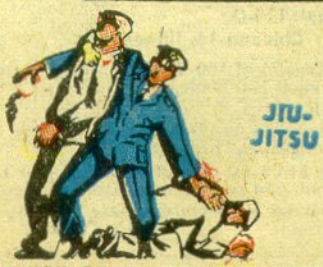
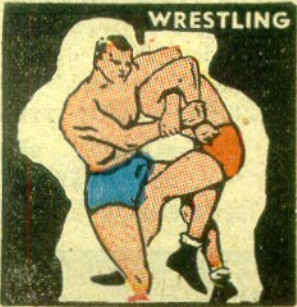
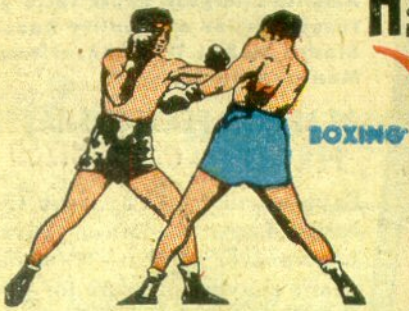
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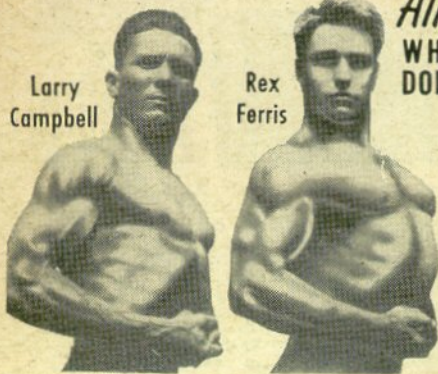


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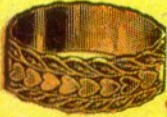
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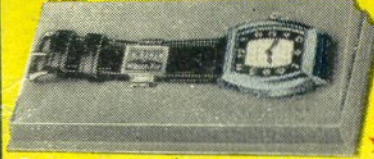
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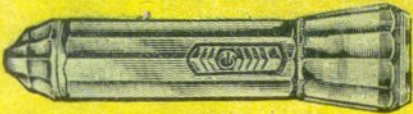
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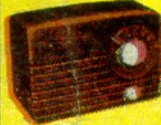
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